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U.S. and Russians agree to coordinate ME peace efforts

Kissinger to Algiers

GENEVA. — The U.S. and the Soviet Union yesterday agreed "to exercise their influence" to bring about a Middle East peace settlement.

This was announced in a joint communique following seven hours of talks between U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

After the meeting Kissinger left for Algeria for talks with President Houari Boumedienne.

"The Minister and the Secretary exchanged views on the current status of the negotiations of a Middle East settlement and on the next phase of these negotiations," the communique said.

"The two sides agreed to exercise their influence towards a positive outcome and to remain in close touch with each other, so as to strive to coordinate their efforts for a peaceful settlement in the area.

"Both sides expressed themselves in favour of the resumption of the work of the Geneva peace conference on the Middle East at an early date." The conference opened on December 21 but went into recess the next day pending the disengagement of Israel troops with those of Egypt and Syria.

Kissinger spoke to newsmen as he escorted Gromyko out of the hotel where the talks were held: "The Middle East can be handled this week, but I have no doubt that it will also be handled at the highest level. I am sure I speak for the Foreign Minister also when I say it will be handled this week.

"I count on Soviet understanding and I hope even for cooperation," Kissinger said about his efforts to arrange a troop disengagement between Israel and Syria.

It was not clear what Kissinger meant when he said the Middle East would he "handled." Western officials said they doubt it meant that the issue would be settled because, by referring to the problem being "handled" at the highest level, Kissinger was referring to U.S. President Richard Nixon's trip to Moscow in June.

Gromyko told reporters the meeting had been "useful, friendly and businesslike."

Speaking in English, Gromyko said: "The questions discussed by us are those which must be considered at the highest level when President Nixon will come to Moscow." He added that he and Kissinger hoped that their discussions in Geneva would produce "certain next steps."

Gromyko glanced at Kissinger as though for confirmation and the Secretary of State said: "I agree with what the Foreign Minister has said."

The ministers also agreed that a great deal had been accomplished in preparations for President Nixon's planned visit to Moscow.

U.S. State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey said the talks ran much longer than anticipated and were devoted almost exclusively to the Middle East situation and the Strategic Arms Limitations talks (Salt).

(UPI, Reuter)

Rabin opens talks with ILP, NRP

By ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Labour-Mapam Alignment de...ion met with teams from the ...onal Religious and the Inde...dent Liberal parties in the Knes... building last night for the ...al opening of talks on reconsti...g the present coalition under ...premiership of Labour Minister ...hak Rabin.

...e Alignment asked the two ...ies to give their answers by the ...nning of next week, and it ...sed the NRP in particular that ..."Who's a Jew" law (the Law ...Return) would not be amended ...stipulate Halachic conversion ...

...e meeting, which afforded more ...y than substance, enabled each ...the three sides to outline the ...cies which its inner party forums ...already instructed it to follow.

...e NRP delegation offered the ...last line of all at the opening ...ting.

...e Alignment came to the meet... committed to seeking a new ...ition with the same make-up and ...same programme as the out...g one. Twenty-one days should ...nough time for the parties to ...e up their minds about this, ...Alignment said.

...e NRP came committed (by ...mid-afternoon caucus) to stress ...need in the negotiations for a ...ernment of national unity. The ...negotiators were also instruc...to advise the Alignment that ...ssue of "Who's a Jew" was a question of substance and not of ideology.

The ILP caucus had resolved to back Yitzhak Rabin in his attempt to reconstitute the outgoing coalition, but emphasized that the final report of the Agranat Commission of inquiry on the Yom Kippur war blunders would have to be followed immediately by elections.

The Alignment's 16-man negotiating delegation was approved earlier, at a joint meeting of the Knesset faction plus the Leadership Bureau. Premier Golda Meir, Deputy Premier Yigal Allon, Foreign Minister Abba Eban, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, Haifa Mayor Yosef Almogi and most of the Cabinet were there. So, too, were mavericks like Yitzhak Ben-Aharon and Lyova Eliav.

Almogi had been asked specially to come down from Haifa by Yitzhak Rabin, for a private chat. Almogi said afterwards that he was backing Rabin all along the line.

Labour secretary-general Aharon Yadlin echoed Coalition Whip Moshe Baram's statement that the first objective in the tripartite negotiations would be to get the NRP and the ILP to enter a coalition. This of course did not mean that the Aguda and the Citizens Rights Movement were ineligible as potential partners, if the negotiations moved in to second phase, Yadlin said.

Yitzhak Rabin, who made the only major speech at the faction-bureau meeting, noted that he already had informal and non-committal conversations with the NRP's Yosef Burg and Yitzhak Raphael, and the ILP's Gideon Hausner. They had discussed the issue of forming a coalition but had not gone into personalities, he said — this perhaps a hinted denial, that anybody had offered Dr. Burg a Deputy *Premiership*.

Rabin said the aim of reconstituting the outgoing coalition was logical, if only because the composition and the policy programmes of the present Government had not been responsible in any way for its fall.

Implying that he did not favour a national unity government, Rabin said that the existing policy on security and peace had proved itself sound in the cease-fire and the Geneva talks, and would hopefully prove right regarding disengagement too.

Labour must cut down the negotiating period to the minimum. "Symposia" like last time were out of the question, he said. The work would be done in quiet, informal contacts.

Esther Herlitz won no sympathy

(Continued one page five col. six)

Goren insists on halacha in law

Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said last night that he does not want to be involved in the political aspects of the "Who is a Jew?" question, but he insisted that the law must include the specific words "converted according to Halacha." He was answering a question put to him by an Israel Radio reporter.

NRP secretary Zvi Bernstein reported on the Chief Rabbi's view at a party meeting yesterday. Mr. Bernstein said he did not think Rabbi Goren would be satisfied with the wording, "as carried out throughout the ages."

FOUR SYRIAN MIG 21s DOWNED

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Jerusalem Post Military Correspondent

Four Syrian Mig 21s were downed by Israel Air Force interceptors in an air battle in the Hermon region yesterday afternoon. The Army Spokesman announced that all the Israel planes returned safely to base.

The four Syrian fighters downed were part of a formation of eight planes providing an air umbrella for several Syrian Mig-17s which had crossed the cease-fire line in an attempt to bomb the Israeli position on the Mount Hermon peak. The Mig 21s were downed with air-to-air missiles and cannon fire in a dogfight which lasted 10 minutes. One of the Syrian pilots was seen to ball out over Lebanon and later to be picked up by a Syrian helicopter; the other three are thought to have crashed with their planes, which fell in Syrian territory.

Three soldiers were injured yesterday by Syrian artillery fire which encompassed most of the bulge, Israel positions on the Hermon and on the southern Golan.

The IAF launched two attacks for a total of two hours on Syrian positions on the eastern slopes of the Hermon range in the afternoon, hitting anti-aircraft, artillery and mortar batteries. The planes also dealt with tanks and engineering equipment which was being massed on the slopes of the range, presumably to be moved up the mountain to the Syrian position at 2,600 metres where they are attempting to build a road. Work on the road stopped on April 14, as the result of intensive Israel aerial bombardment, and the IDF seems intent on stopping the Syrian roadworks permanently. Syrian forces in the area have come under almost daily aerial and artillery bombardment for the past three weeks.

The Syrians yesterday concentrated their artillery fire on the southern sector of the bulge in the region of Tel Mashara, Um Butna and Tel Ahmed, and on the southern Golan Heights south of Kuneitra and Tel Farris. Shells were also directed against Israel forces at Mazrat Beit Jann in the northern sector, and on the Hermon, including the peak.

In addition to launching air strikes, Israel also replied to the Syrians with artillery, lobbing hundreds of shells onto targets around the perimetre of the bulge.

For the third time in the past week yesterday, Har Dov (Jebel Rus), an Israel position on the Lebanese border, came under fire. It was still not certain last night whether the position was being fired at from Syria or from Lebanon, and, if from Lebanon, whether terrorists or the army.

It is thought here that the Lebanese army is not responsible for the bombardments, and it is believed that the shells are most probably from terrorist units manning 120 mm. mortars from Lebanese territory, who are working in coordination with the Syrians. Terrorists operating from Lebanon have also been responsible for laying several mines on the road leading up to the Hermon peak from the Pitulim position over the past two weeks.

Syria steps up pressure as Kissinger begins Middle East tour

By ANAN SAFADI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The increase in Syrian military activity on Mt. Hermon and the Golan front yesterday was combined with apparent attempts by Damascus to pile up political pressure on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's arrival in the area in his efforts for a military disengagement.

The Secretary of State is scheduled to fly into Alexandria this afternoon for talks with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat on the Israel-Syrian disengagement, on the latest developments in the Middle East, and on Cairo-Washington relations. Cairo Radio said last night that Dr. Kissinger will spend some time in Alexandria, indicating that he would be flying straight to Jerusalem on Thursday, instead of going to Damascus first.

The Israel Cabinet is expected to hold an extraordinary session today in preparation for Dr. Kissinger's arrival.

The Secretary of State is expected to go to Damascus on Friday taking Israel's views on what is described by diplomatic circles as an American compromise scheme, bridging between plans conveyed to Washington earlier this month by Defence Minister Moshe Dayan and Syria's army intelligence chief Brig. Hikmat Shehabi.

Dr. Kissinger yesterday discussed the prospects of an Israel-Syrian disengagement with Algerian President Houari Boumedienne during an overnight stopover in Algiers. Kissinger has recently been maintaining close contact with Boumedienne, and the latter seemes to have played a major role in softening Arab militant resistance to Washington's current Middle East efforts.

The State Secretary had flown to Algeria from his talks in Geneva with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

Beirut press reports said that Gromyko was likely to arrive in Damascus today or tomorrow, ahead of Dr. Kissinger.

In contrast to the four previous shuttle visits he paid to the region since the October War, Dr. Kissinger's current tour is under a news blackout, reflecting the delicate nature of the mission, stemming from the gap between Syria and Israel on the disengagement issue.

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam said yesterday that he did not know whether Kissinger was bringing "anything positive." He stressed that Damascus will settle for no less than a total Israel withdrawal and the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people.

In an apparent reference to recent reports on Israel and Syrian differences on the troop separation line with Damascus demanding the return of the town of Kuneitra, Khaddam said the question was "not one of positions and kilometres, but of total withdrawal."

Khaddam cast doubts on whether Kissinger's current mission would help ease tension on the Golan front, saying that his "presence or absence has no connection with the fighting." Khaddam said that Syria is "fighting for declared and well-known reasons, and the fighting will stop only when the reasons for it are eliminated."

Dayan: We want the fighting to end

By MALKA RABINOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Israel's disengagement terms for Golan remain those submitted to Dr. Kissinger earlier this month, Defence Minister Moshe Dayan said in the Knesset yesterday.

To the best of his knowledge, he said, the Government had not altered its stand on the conditions for separation of military forces with Syria.

These terms have not been announced, but reportedly include Israel's withdrawal to the 1967 cease-

(Continued on page 2, col. 3)

Eban's criticism angers Kissinger

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

GENEVA. — U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is described here as having been sorely angered by reports of the critical remarks made by Foreign Minister Abba Eban to Israel's Cabinet on Sunday on U.S. support of last week's Security Council resolution censuring Israel.

According to informed sources here, Dr. Kissinger took exception to the substance and the timing of Mr. Eban's remarks, coming as they did on the eve of his visit to Israel and the Middle East.

The sources said that the Secretary had instructed the U.S. Ambassador in Israel, Kenneth Keating, to convey his views to Mr. Eban, and the envoy is expected to see the Foreign Minister today.

Mr. Eban told the Cabinet that the U.S. had in the past voted against such partisan anti-Israel resolutions, and said the move might fit into the general pattern of Washington's current policy in the Middle East.

The Secretary Council censured Israel for its attack on several Lebanese villages following the Kiryat Shmona massacre, but failed to mention Kiryat Shmona.

U.S. report: Dr. K. backs Syria in demanding Kuneitra first

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Kuneitra will have to be handed back to the Syrians in the first stage of negotiations, in the belief of Henry Kissinger, "Newsweek" reports.

The American news magazine reports that, in his last discussions with Israel leaders in Jerusalem, he told them that Kuneitra must be handed back in the first stage. When Foreign Minister Abba Eban replied "No, the second stage," the U.S. Secretary of State turned to him stonily and said: "If Kuneitra isn't part of the first stage, there will be no first stage, and no second stage."

The Syrian concessions in return are reported to include the release of Israel prisoners of war and agreement to the stationing of U.N. troops in a buffer zone on the Golan Heights.

MAY DAY 1974

...o the workers of Israel!

...srael's workers will this year celebrate May Day with a firm ...rit and an upright stature. They look forward to a future of ...ce and security, of economic and social well-being.

...he flags of country and class that are displayed this May Day ...oughout the land and the democratic free world unite the great ... organized body of Israeli workers behind a vision that contains ...olitical and a class challenge. They do so in a spirit of solidarity ... identification with free labour movements the world over that ... based on the values of international amity, social justice and ...al equality.

...he best of the pioneering ideals and the yearning of mankind ...a better and more just world have, for many generations, found ...ression in the Israel Labour Movement. The Histadrut exempli... by its very existence the struggle of a free and independent ...ur movement for the establishment of a workers' common...lth in Israel — the historic homeland of the Jewish people.

...n this May Day, we will bear aloft the Jewish and humanitarian ...ls that have illuminated our course for generations. Let us ...en the sense of solidarity among Israeli workers, between the ... at work and those serving in the reserves, between the front ... and the home front, between city workers and the labour ...lements.

...ay Day in this emergency period must be a day of study and ...spection, aimed at strengthening the ideological foundations ...he Labour Movement in Israel and inculcating these ideas in ...h, new immigrants, the workers in town and country — indeed ...entire population.

...n this day, let us fortify our resolve and consolidate our purpose...ess to eradicate poverty, to reduce social differentials in Israeli ...ty and to eliminate want. We must impart to this May Day ...ward-looking quality, and make it into an occasion for revitali...n and renewal of values. We must seek to fortify the means ...achieving Socialist Zionism as the path for the upbuilding of ...on, state and society.

...this period of siege, when with superb heroism, our nation con...ts its enemies, killers and terrorists lacking all human decency ...t us bear the heavy task of preserving workers' living standards ...fortifying social achievements. We will demand a juster distri...n of the national and security burden over all strata of the ...lation, and insist on maximum efforts to prevent the enrich... of the few at the expense of the general community.

...e curbing of price rises and cessation of the inflationary spiral ...priority in our concerns. On this May Day we note our achieve...s in this sphere of concern for the lower-income groups and ...he larger families. We regard this as signifying the continuity ...e course of achievements pursued under the responsible leader...of the Histadrut.

...this day, let us send greetings to every worker and his family ...rael, to the newly arrived immigrants, to the Israel Defence ...es, to the border villages, to the new generation, to our youth, ...o all friends of the Labour Movement in Israel and abroad.

...y the coming day be replete with peace and security, days of ...d bearing, amity and comradeship; days of fulfilment of the ...h of national revival and social renewal.

...ONG LIVE THE ...ISTADRUT! ...ONG LIVE ...AY DAY!

...Histadrut — the General Federation of Labour in Israel
The Executive

...1, 1974

Nahal Gitit man dies of wounds

A soldier who was wounded last Tuesday, when his vehicle hit a mine south of Nahal Gitit, in the Jordan Valley, died of his wounds yesterday. He was Rav-Turai Mordechai Eisen, from Ashkelon, a member of Gitit.

Three soldiers were killed and four wounded when the mine set their command car afire.

Boliyia's Foreign Minister here

General Guzman Soriano

B-G AIRPORT. — Bolivia's Foreign Minister, General Alberto Guzman Soriano, arrived yesterday for a four-day official visit during which he will meet with Prime Minister Golda Meir and President Ephraim Katzir.

General Guzman and his wife were received by Foreign Minister Abba Eban, who voiced the hope that the close cooperation between Israel and Bolivia would be strengthened during the General's talks here.

State Comptroller denies blame for military shortcomings

Jerusalem Post Economic Correspondent

"If it is felt that there is a clash between my position as State Comptroller and my membership of the Agranat Commission (on shortcomings in the October war), I am ready to resign from the commission, Dr. Nebenzahl declared at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday.

Meeting the press to introduce his Report for 1973, he was pressed with questions concerning his office's possible share of responsibility for the faults of the October war. "You have criticised shortcomings in the maintenance of tanks and other military equipment," one newsman said. "But perhaps you didn't push your criticisms hard enough, or call loudly enough for correction."

Another added: "And if that is so, you could be one of the organizations that the Agranat Commission is supposed to investigate. Doesn't this situation call into question your membership?"

Dr. Nebenzahl answered that only very thick-skinned public servants do not feel at least a touch of responsibility for what happened. But, speaking calmly and with a great deal of humour, he drew attention to the dividing-line between the administrative and political functions. "Our job is to supply the facts — others must draw conclusions. The State Comptroller only throws the ball onto the field. How the ball is handled is a political question."

YITZHAK NEBENZAHL

He has regularly pointed up flaws in the defence establishment. In the first Annual Report for which he was responsible, (the 12th, in 1962), he already drew attention to inadequacies in the care of tanks mothballed against an emergency. Later, criticisms were directed also at the Navy, and the Air Force.

"The armed forces are a vast organization. If we had more qualified manpower and a larger budget, we could do more inspecting in this sector," he admitted.

Concerning Ministerial responsibility, Nebenzahl pointed out that once the public is apprised of the facts, it will make its own decision, through its representatives in the Knesset.

But his department does go as far as it can. In his latest report as Ombudsman, he commented adversely on the failure to adopt punitive measures against civil servants who fall down on their jobs, Nebenzahl recalled.

Other press conference remarks — page 2.

Summaries of the Comptroller's Report appear on pages 6, 7 and 9. Further reports will appear in subsequent issues of The Jerusalem Post.

Stray Iraqi rocket kills 4 in Turkey

MARDIN, Southeast Turkey. — A stray Iraqi anti-tank rocket exploded in the eastern Turkish village of Kapili yesterday during an attack on Kurdish rebels in neighbouring northern Iraq. Four persons were killed and 22 others were injured, Turkish government sources said.

The attack came as Iraqi jets and armour stepped up their assault on Kurdish rebel positions close to the frontier. Tension in the area was high after the accidental shelling, and Turkish jets patrolled the skies.

The Turkish sources reported that, during the battle, a group of 34 Kurdish women and children fled across the border into Turkey and asked for asylum. The stray rocket which hit Kapili was the second such incident in two days, the government sources said.

250 dead and 500 missing in Peru landslide

LIMA (Reuter). — At least 250 people are dead and 500 missing after landslides wiped out two Peruvian Andes villages — and another 10 villages are now threatened by a huge lake formed by the slide.

Government spokesmen, giving the first official toll in the landslides, which occurred on Thursday night, said the 10 villages were threatened by a huge lake which piled up when the slides blocked the fast-flowing Mantaro River near the town of Huacoto, 380 kilometres south-east of Lima.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

An earth tremor yesterday shook the city of Cairo and several towns along the Nile Delta, an official at the Helwan observatory said. The exact intensity or possible damages were not immediately known. (Israel Radio reported last night that a number of persons had phoned in, reporting slight tremors in Jerusalem and Petah Tikva at about 10.30. No official confirmation of these reports was available.)

THE JERUSALEM POST, in common with other newspapers whose printing staff are members of the Histadrut, will not appear tomorrow, the First of May.

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LARK

From the U.S.A.

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair with a further rise in temperatures and drop in humidity.
Weather synopsis: Ridge extending from Turkey to the East Mediterranean. Warm low over Tripoli moving eastwards

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min.-Max.	Today's forecast
Jerusalem	30	13—22	14—26
Golan	—	10 —	12—23
Nahariya	70	11—21	13—25
Safad	64	14—25	12—21
Haifa	70	17—22	15—26
Tiberias	42	13—29	14—32
Nazareth	48	— 23	— 27
Afula	53	12—27	13—32
Shomron	45	11—23	12—26
Tel Aviv	73	14—22	15—26
Lod	58	11—25	12—30
Jericho	40	15—32	17—34
Gaza	75	14—22	14—26
Beersheba	20	12—28	14—32
Eilat	9	18—34	19—37
Tiran	15	— 34	23—37

Social and Personal

The Japanese Ambassador, Kazuhide Komuro, yesterday held a reception at the Acadia Hotel in Herzliya to mark Japan's National Day, the birthday of Emperor Hirohito. The diplomatic corps and senior Foreign Ministry officials attended.

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The World Executive of Herut-Hatzohar yesterday held a reception in Tel Aviv in honour of Israel's new Ambassador to South Africa and Mrs. Yitzhak Unna.

*

Zvi Brosh, Director of the Division for International Cooperation of the Foreign Ministry, gave a farewell dinner on Sunday night at Mishkenot Sha'ananim in Jerusalem for the just completed study tour on early childhood education. Participants in the study tour, directed by the Mount Carmel International Training Centre in Haifa, were: India — Dr. Margaret Varma, of the Indian Association of Pre-School Education: Iran — Dr. Keyvan Zahir, health consultant to the National Association for the Protection of Children; Thailand — Misses Uma Boonprakob and Werawan Chumroonratana and Mesdames Chanatip Chutakrul, Prapapan Kornkosiyakaj, Bupphan Nimminhahaeminda, all principals or teachers at nursery or elementary school: Vietnam — Dr. Nguyen Kuy Bong, principal at a teachers training college, and two observers from Sweden — Dr. Karin Stensland-Junker, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm and Kerstin Jakobsson, an educator.

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A benefit evening for the scholarship fund of the Jerusalem branch of University Women will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, May 1, 8 p.m. at the Van Leer Foundation. The film "Etz o Palestina" will be shown. The public is invited.

*

A Memorial Service for Prof. Victor Gottheiner, ז"ל, the heart rehabilitation specialist, will be held on Thursday, May 2, at 5 o'clock in the Library Hall of the Wingate Physical Training Institute near Netanya. Friends of the late Professor and those who cherish his memory are invited to attend.

ARRIVALS

Health Minister Victor Shemtov, from Vienna, where he represented the Government at the funeral of Austrian President Franz Jonas (by El Al).

Dr. Reuven Kohen-Raz, of the Hebrew University's School of Education, from England where he delivered the 1974 "Sarah Stoltz Lecture" at Guys Hospital Medical School, London University.

DEPARTURES

Mathilde Ghez, M.K., and singer Hava Alberstein, for Brussels, to take part in the Israel Independence Day celebrations there. (By El Al).

Prof. Eric Segal of Yale University (author of "Love Story"), after lecturing at Tel Aviv University.

COMPTROLLER: THE STATE TENDS TO OVERPAY BANKS

By DAVID KRIVINE
Jerusalem Post Economic Correspondent

The Government tends to overpay for banking and other services. Owing to the immense scale of its financial operations, a few extra percentage points spell differences running into millions of pounds, Dr. E.I. Nebenzahl, the State Comptroller, stated at a hard-hitting press conference in Jerusalem yesterday.

The occasion was the publication of his office's 24th Annual Report, covering administrative problems in 1973 and public accounts during the fiscal year 1972/73. The text, running to almost 1,000 pages, was tabled in the Knesset yesterday. It will be studied this year, for the first time, by a special parliamentary committee, headed by Dr. Yohanan Bader, of the Likud.

Dr. Nebenzahl acknowledged that Government departments take notice of the State Comptroller's criticisms, and have improved procedures. But he made a blistering attack on spendthrift handling of banking and other services — "which contribute to swelling profits in these sectors on a scale that is not justified and not necessary."

The Government pays a commission to banks which handle its bond issues. Nebenzahl considers it to be excessive. Finance Minister Sapir has agreed with the banks to reduce it from 2-2.5 per cent a year to 1-1.5 per cent.

But Dr. Nebenzahl goes further. Banks and other financial institutions are allowed to issue bonds, with the object of depositing the proceeds in the Treasury. Would it not be cheaper — he asks — for the Treasury to issue its own bonds, thus eliminating the bank charge?

Buyers of the bonds include pension funds and other institutional investors, who are compelled by law to place a fixed proportion of their funds in Government or Government-guaranteed securities. They could acquire such papers from the Bank of Israel, without the need to pay bank commissions, Dr. Nebenzahl suggests.

When insurance companies buy Treasury bonds during the first half of each year, the linkage is fixed according to the price-index figure for the previous December. Therefore they use the money for other purposes until the month of June, and then do their buying at the last minute — receiving a linkage bonus back-dated to December.

The Government is too lavish in its approach. It underwrites linkage in bond issues made by private institutions to finance their own investments, or to acquire already existing assets.

In general, the Government does not exploit its position as a big customer to get the cheapest price for services, whether they concern insurance or banking or commercial intermediaries. Dr. Nebenzahl observes dryly that in times of inflation, sharp-witted individuals commonly make money at the expense of simpler souls in the community. The Government should not let itself be milked as well.

He went on to criticise the disparity that has developed between the services branch and other sectors in the economy. Ten years ago, he pointed out, a tanker carrying 25,000 tons of oil had a crew of 40. Today, a super-tanker carrying 250,000 tons manages with a crew of 30.

In the financial institutions, turnover has soared — and so has the employment of personnel. Their booming profits did not derive from higher productivity, he stated.

This excessive prosperity, encouraged by easy gains in their transactions with the Government, permits them (incidentally) to draw top-level personnel away from the Government service. Investment companies and others offer conditions that the public sector cannot compete with.

It is generally accepted that private firms provide bigger salaries than the civil service — but not to this extent. "There is a limit. I mean — we all breathe the same air," Dr. Nebenzahl observed.

Zadok: Time has come for constitution

Justice Minister Haim Zadok said yesterday that the time has come "to take reasonable steps towards legislating and completing a constitution for the State of Israel."

Speaking at a symposium at the Knesset yesterday, the Justice Minister said the "constitution by evolution" that has been built up since the establishment of the State — a series of laws and Supreme Court rulings of a constitutional nature — have yet to be codified in a single document. Nevertheless, there is a growing public awareness that the time has come to advance towards legislating a constitution, he said.

"This is not an easy task," the Justice Minister warned, "but it is a task that must be undertaken. Now is the time to start advancing by reasonable steps towards completing a constitution."

Survivors' benefits to match inflation

In view of the present inflation, pensions and grants to bereaved families will probably be increased. This was announced yesterday by Yisrael Kargman, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee.

Mr. Kargman headed a subcommittee which dealt with survivors' grants and pensions after the Six Day War. The Prime Minister has now asked him to reactivate the subcommittee to deal with the present rise in the cost of living.

Knesset Member Akiva Nof (Likud), after he chained himself to the fence of the German Embassy in Tel Aviv yesterday in protest against the arrest of Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld earlier this month. Bavarian state police were acting on a 1971 order barring her from West Germany.

Mr. Nof said he was demanding that the West German Government release Mrs. Klarsfeld immediately, and arrest those Nazi war criminals who are still at liberty. (IPPA)

Quiet May Day will be general holiday, no big parades

Jerusalem Post Staff

Most workers will observe May Day tomorrow by simply having a day off. It will be a general holiday, except for essential services. No newspapers will appear, except for Agudat Yisrael's Jerusalem daily, "Hamodia."

For civil servants May Day is an optional holiday, along with the fast of the Ninth of Ab and Jerusalem Unification Day. A state employee may stay away from his job on any one of these days without loss of pay.

None of the big parades that characterized May Day in the past will be held. Only the smaller left-wing parties, like Moked and Rakah (new Communist) will take to the streets.

The main feature of tomorrow's modest celebrations will be a national youth quiz contest in Jerusalem's Beit Ha'am about David Ben-Gurion, his writings, vision and political career in the Zionist movement. The participants, from the Histadrut Amal vocational schools, will compete for the IL1,000 Paula Ben-Gurion Memorial Scholarship.

There will also be a IL750 second prize and a IL500 third prize. The judges will be headed by Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and Ben-Gurion's former political secretary.

Other May Day features:

- Sports rallies;
- Public meetings;
- Documentary film shows;
- Organized tours for workers and new immigrants;
- The opening of a Yosef Haim Brenner memorial exhibition in Beit Brenner, Tel Aviv.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel, in his special May Day message, promised that "the Histadrut will endeavour to protect wage-earners' living standards and their social achievements." He spelled out the federation's firm intention to seek "a juster distribution of the defence burden for all strata of the population" and dwelt on organized labour's insistence on "adopting maximum measures to curb the enrichment of the few at the expense of the many."

Mr. Meshel urged Israeli labour "to deepen the sense of identity between men at work and those serving in the reserve units, between the front-line and the homefront, and between urban workers and frontier villagers."

At the Jerusalem Labour Council building in Rehov Straus, workmen were busy hoisting red banners to flank the national flag. In past years, the sight of the red flags had enraged persons in the area and some of the flags were torn down.

Asked if special precautions would be taken this year, a Labour Council official said yesterday: "We have a regular guard on duty anyway. But if the flags bother people so much that they feel they must remove them, then let them remove the flags. Who cares?"

Bar-Lev: More inflation but no recession

Inflation will continue, but there will be no recession, Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev said yesterday.

Speaking at the Jerusalem Economic Club, Mr. Bar-Lev said production would increase. Imports would go up 30 to 35 per cent in current prices and 10 per cent in real value, he said.

There could be no recession he said, because it was impossible to cut the State budget by billions of pounds. Such a move would adversely affect defence, absorption and social services, including those granted to demobilized soldiers, he said.

However, the minister had no "good news" about a possible break in the wave of price increases, which, he said, was world-wide. Only a lowering of the standard of living could bring an improvement in this area, he noted. *(Itim)*

IL150,000 target for veterans fund

TEL AVIV. — The scholarship fund for handicapped veterans expects to raise IL150,000 this year to help young men disabled during their military service to earn a university or college degree.

The scholarships are in addition to the allocations given by the Ministry of Defence to disabled veterans studying for their bachelor's degree. They will cover at least half the tuition fees, Mr. Ya'acov Doron, president of the fund, and Mrs. Molly Elhanani, vice-president, told the press here on Sunday.

One fund-raising function, opening today, is an exhibition sale of 100 lithographs at Yad Le'banim here.

Israel beats Belgians

TEL AVIV. — The Israel national basketball squad beat a team of stars from the Belgium league 90:85 at the Yad Eliahu Stadium here last night. The score at half time was 40:45. The visitors play the Israel squad again tonight at Na'aman.

Jews saved from Nazis in monks' habits

Jerusalem Post Reporter

An Italian and a French monk were honoured as Righteous Gentiles by Yad Vashem yesterday — the one for saving over 300 Jews during World War II, the other for rescuing a single Jewish life from the Germans.

Franciscan Father Rufino Nicacci, 63, helped hide some 300 Jews in monasteries and cloisters around his native Assisi. He supplied them with monks' habits and taught them to act like monks so that they were able to fool the Germans during their frequent searches.

At the same time Father Nicacci made great efforts to supply the Jewish religious needs of his wards, and he even organized classes for their children. In addition to the 300 he actually hid, he helped several thousand others by supplying them with false documents which allowed them to escape the Germans.

Before the war Father Nicacci had never met a Jew. Several of the families he saved now live here, and a group of his erstwhile wards after the war contributed to the upkeep of an orphanage and an ecumenical house he founded near Assisi.

The Israeli writer Alexander Ramati is currently working on a book tentatively called "The Brothers," in which he describes the war-time actions of Father Nicacci and his fellow monks.

Father Joseph Richard of France was honoured for saving the life of Werner Epstein, who was wanted by the Gestapo on suspicion of having killed one of their men. He hid Epstein for a while and later helped him join a French underground group operating in the Alps.

Two remanded for stealing weapons

Two men — one of them a British subject — were remanded yesterday in two cases involving theft of arms allegedly for the purpose of committing armed robbery.

Morris Westwood, a 25-year-old British subject, was remanded for seven days in the Kiryat Gat Magistrate's Court after an Uzi sub-machinegun and 10 magazines were allegedly found in his apartment. He admitted possessing the weapon but denied involvement in any crime.

In Ashkelon, a local man, Yehuda Ilan, was remanded for 15 years on suspicion of stealing a Kalatchnikov sub-machinegun and an army jeep. Police are investigating the possibility that Ilan may have used the jeep and the gun — which were stolen from outside the Ganei Shulamit Hotel — in a number of burglaries and robberies in the Tel Aviv area. *(Itim)*

SLOW VEHICLES will again be banned from some major roadways during the busy hours, starting tomorrow. The ban, which was lifted because of the war, will be in effect from 7 and 8.30 a.m. and 3.30 to 4.30 p.m. (See advertisement P. 3.)

Habimah *mezuza* made Treasury man suspicious

TEL AVIV. — The trial against the three former directors of the Habimah Theatre, charged with embezzling more than IL400,000 between 1962 and 1968, continued in the District Court here yesterday.

Asher Sherf, Avraham Ninio and Bat-Ami Elyashiv were first charged in 1970, but the trial was delayed until last June by various defence arguments.

At yesterday's session, the auditor assigned by the Treasury to go through Habimah's books, Shimon Liberman, told the Court that many of the theatre's accounts had aroused his suspicion. Among others, he noted one for a *mezuza* — ostensibly for the theatre's production of Irma La Douce.

He also noted that several of the accounts were signed only by the theatre management's first names, saying he had been told this was done "from fear of income tax."

Defence attorney Uri Slonim challenged the competence of Mr. Liberman to give evidence on the theatre's books, and claimed that the accountant who originally handled them should be called to testify as well. The judge agreed.

Several Habimah actors are expected to be called to testify as the trial proceeds. *(Itim)*

2 suspected spy ring members held

Jerusalem Post Reporter

ACRE. — Two men suspected of belonging to an offshoot of the Jewish-Arab spy and sabotage ring uncovered last year have been detained by the security forces, it was learned here yesterday.

The two are Elias aid Ahmed, 34, of Kafr Kama, and Faiz Jeris Turki, 35, of Haifa, a cousin of Daoud Turki, one of the ringleaders of the ring who is now serving a 17-year jail team. The two were arrested at the beginning of the month, but the court's ban on publication was lifted only yesterday.

The security forces said the two belonged to a cell of the spy ring which had become dormant with the arrest of the spies. They said the two had not yet carried out any activities. *(Itim)*

Guatemala President's visit 'no accident'

Jerusalem Post Staff

"My visit to Israel during this, of all times, is not accidental. It is in times of hardship that friendship should be demonstrated," the President-elect of Guatemala, General Eugenio Kjell Laugrud, said during his visit to the Knesset yesterday.

The guest is currently on a week's visit to Israel.

General Laugrud also visited the Israel Museum and the Yad Vashem memorial yesterday morning and he was luncheon guest of Mayor Teddy Kollek. Afterwards, he and his party visited Bethlehem and met Mayor Elias Freij.

Katzir to deliver scientific paper

REHOVOT. — A scientific paper will be read by President Ephraim Katzir at the Rehovot symposium on polyamino acids, polypeptides and proteins opening Thursday at the Weizmann Institute.

The Rehovot symposium's first session will also be the concluding session of the 13th European Peptide Symposium held earlier in the week at Kibbutz Kiryat Anavim near Jerusalem.

Profesor Katzir has made pioneering contributions to the field starting in 1947.

DAYAN

(Continued from page one)

fire lines from the bulge captured in the October war.

Mr. Dayan was speaking at a special Knesset session called on the demand of Likud to discuss both the Syrian front and "surging inflation."

It was the first time Yitzhak Rabin sat down at the Cabinet table as his party's Premier-designate, and in the course of the day the centre of interest lay in the Knesset caucus rooms where coalition talks were being carried to form a new government.

Prime Minister Golda Meir stayed away from yesterday's session.

This was the third special session to be called during the six-week Passover recess. A fourth will be held on Thursday, again at the request of Likud, to discuss an appeal to the West German Bundestag to help bring about the immediate release of Nazi-fighter Beate Klarsfeld. The House resumes regular sessions next week.

Presenting the Likud's urgent motion for the agenda, Shmuel Tamir (Free Centre wing of the opposition bloc) said he feared Israel would bow to American pressure and go beyond the terms it outlined to Dr. Kissinger and withdraw from parts of Golan held before the October war.

There was no American pressure, the Defence Minister replied. But it would be well to remember that disengagement and an end to the fighting were in Israel's interest and that Dr. Kissinger was the best mediator available.

Israel's policy was to see to it that Syrian aggression does not pay, Mr. Dayan said. Israel could step up its activities but that would mean risking Syria doing the same. "In the war with Egypt, civilian settlements were not attacked even when they had the means to do so. I do not believe that this worked to our disadvantage," he said.

With the agreement of Mr. Tamir, the motion was passed to the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

The low key in which the exchange on Syria was conducted shifted when Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir rose to reply to a motion on "Government action on surging inflation," submitted by Yigal Horowitz (State List wing of Likud).

The burden of Mr. Sapir's biting reply was that Mr. Horowitz' move was a political manoeuvre aimed at possible new elections. The Finance Minister "invited" the opposition to try and cut a billion pounds off a budget based on huge defence, housing and immigrant absorption expenditures.

The motion was voted to the Finance Committee.

Arsonist to be deported soon

Rohan moved from Acre for safety

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER, Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Dennis Michael Rohan, the Australian who set fire to the El Aksa Mosque in Jerusalem four years ago, has been moved from the Acre Mental Hospital to an undisclosed place of confinement to protect him against possible violence at the hands of Moslem zealots.

The 33-year-old patient was moved after the press revealed he was being kept at Acre in connection with reports that he would be deported to Australia. The authorities recently confirmed that there was no prospect of his mental condition improving and said there was no reason to continue his hospitalization in Israel.

Douglas Quaile, the Australian Consul in Tel Aviv who deals with Rohan's case, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that he had not been informed of his removal from Acre. "In fact, I was going to phone today to ask how he was," he said. Mr. Quaile declined to comment on Rohan's forthcoming deportation.

It is learned that Rohan burst into tears when informed of the decision to deport him to Australia, at his father's request. He had come to consider himself an Israeli and hoped to be eventually released from hospital and allowed to settle in this country.

Rohan allegedly claimed that doctors at Acre had restored his "mental balance," and that he no longer had "visions." According to fellow patients, Rohan told them that he had considered himself a messenger destined to become "king of Israel," and that he had set fire to the mosque to prove his worthiness of the royal position. But after treatment he gave up his belief in his mission.

Rohan is to be deported to Australia in the near future, the Interior Ministry spokesman said last night. He declined to give the date.

The Jerusalem District Court had ordered him confined indefinitely in a mental institution.

Rohan at his trial in 1969. (Weiss)

Suspected hashish dealer arrested

The drugs squad of the Jerusalem police detained an East Jerusalem resident allegedly in possession of 29 plugs of hashish early Sunday morning.

The police said they arrested the suspect in Rehov Ein Gedi near the Diplomat Hotel while he was waiting for customers. They valued the hashish, weighing four and a half kilograms, at IL20,000. *(Itim)*

The Israel Cancer Association

congratulates

Prof. YITZHAK BERNBLOM

Chairman and founder of the Association on his receiving the

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In deep sorrow we announce the death of our dear mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and aunt,

FRIDA WOLLSTEIN

who passed away peacefully on April 26, 1974, in London, at the age of 89.

For the bereaved family
Dr. H. Wollstein and family, Rishon Lezion
S.F. Weldon and family, London

The Management and Staff of
Tahal Consulting Engineers Ltd.
Water Planning for Israel Ltd.

offer their deepest sympathy to

Mr. Ernst Balaban,

our Executive Vice President,
on the passing of his sister,

Prof. ZIPORA ALTERMAN

ELIEZER MERON
has passed away.

He dedicated his body to science.
Please refrain from condolence visits.

THE FAMILY

On Thursday, May 2, 1974,
we shall hold a
MEMORIAL SERVICE
at the grave of

MOSHE KASHTI ז"ל

The headstone will be unveiled at 2 p.m. in the Kiryat Shaul cemetery.

Esther, Yehuda and Sara Kashti

On Thursday, May 2, 1974,
we shall visit the grave of

MOSHE KASHTI ז"ל

The tombstone will be unveiled at 2 p.m. in the Kiryat Shaul cemetery. Transport will be available for Zim employees and those who cherish his memory, at 12 noon, outside Zim House, 209 Sderot Hameginim, Haifa.

ZIM Israel Navigation Company

هكذا من الأصل

Hillel: Terrorists fail to disrupt country

DEFENDS NO DEATH PENALTY

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

FA. — Police Minister Shlomo said yesterday that the ists had failed in their objective — to make nor- ife impossible in Israel and rupt the excellent relations n Jews and Arabs in this y.

king to newsmen at Haifa Police Headquarters, Mr. Hillel said that the police and security services — aided by an alert public — had successfully checked the wave of sabotage the terrorist organizations had launched against Israel during the recent holiday periods. He said the few successful terrorist attacks did not contradict the fact that they had failed in their overall objective of sowing fear and demoralization throughout the country.

But further attempts should not be ruled out, he said. Since the police "can not be everywhere at the same time," the public must remain alert and report every suspicious movement or object.

Mr. Hillel said that relations between the population of Kiryat Shmona and the Druse workers had happily returned to normal, after the flare-up of anger against the latter immediately after the massacre of Pessah week.

The police had acted with "restraint" in Kiryat Shmona, the Minister said, because they could not bear down on "people acting in shocked grief." But, he warned, "We shall not permit our non-Jewish citizens to be harmed or insulted."

In reply to a question, the Minister defended the policy of no capital punishment, saying that, "morally, we have at least spared ourselves the necessity of becoming hangmen." Practically, he said, terrorists generally do not fight to the death when cornered, because they know they do not face execution.

He said that no Israeli, Arab or Jewish, was now being held in administrative detention. From the administered areas, only 22 are currently in administrative arrest, as compared with 1,400 four years ago.

Security in the schools

IV. — A Municipal survey security situation in schools own has shown that a good them maintain no watch r against trespassers, al- there is a high state of in most, as far as unidenals are concerned.

survey commissioned by the l Education Department 105 schools. In 71, senior pupils were stationed at the o check persons entering. In the schools, volunteer parents e job.

is an arrangement which, ec- g to the Mayor, will be en- ed. It is also employed in and Jerusalem.

of the schools, however, no as assigned to the gates.

the schools were surrounded nces although some needed g. In the great majority of , the children had been brief- look out for bags, parcels and suspicious items whose owner- ould not be ascertained. The found that the children were rilled.

9 years for aling soldier's Kalatchnikov

A. — The District Court here day sentenced two young resi- of Baka el-Gharbiya, in the a Sharon, to nine years im- ment each for stealing a n from a soldier they took as hiker last November.

two, Mohammed Sa'id Gha- 5, and his cousin Abdul-Ra'- anim used to take workers he village. As one drove, the tried to strangle the soldier ehind with a rope.

soldier reacted by kicking river who swerved into a and stopped. The two then off with the soldier's Kalatch- sub-machinegun.

assing sentence, Judges Em- Slonim, Avraham Friedman lman Yehudai noted that the e indicated that the two had the theft. *(Itim)*

villagers jailed or conspiring o to Lebanon

— Two youths from Majd n village near Acre were sen- to 18 months imprisonment District Court here yesterday spiring to cross into Leba- ring the October war and e Fatah terrorist organiza-

awwaz Idris, 19, and Khalid mad Dandan, 18, told the that their real reason for to enter Lebanon was "to ebanese girls." Judge Ema- onim ruled that the reason relevant, and the plan to he border was in itself an

ird youth from the village, ud Mahil Man'a, 20, was sen- to nine months, also for to enter Lebanon. He was rged with planning to join ist organization. *(Itim)*

Lahat settles row over ties with Bonn

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Municipal Executive has decided to continue its programme of youth exchanges with Germany despite strong protests that threatened to split the Likud administration.

It all started when the Herut members of the Executive tabled a motion that the new administration cancel the programmes, which involve sending Israeli teenagers to Germany and receiving German teenagers here. The Herut councilmen argued that now that the Likud is in power in Tel Aviv, there is no need to continue with the programme, which they oppose on the grounds that there should be no "normal" relations between Jews and Germans.

The Herut members were supported by the sole Free Centre councilman and by the National Religious Party.

Herut's largest ally within the Likud, the Liberals, argued that such youth exchange programmes have the Government's seal of approval and that it is not incumbent upon the municipalities to change foreign policy.

Herut countered that for them the issue is as important as "who is a Jew" is for the NRP. The Liberals were supported by the State List and the Independent Liberal councillors.

The voting in the Executive resulted in a tie, with five votes favouring each position. The impasse was only resolved when Mayor Shlomo Lahat, a Liberal, cast a second vote in favour of continuing the programme. The Mayor has a double vote on the Executive in case of a tie.

ASSIGNED TO HISTORY: The small-sized New Year's greeting card, a familiar annual holiday fixture for over 100 years, will soon become a thing of the past as the postal service moves to ban little envelopes as a nuisance. (Starphot)

New Year's card victim of times

By AARON SITTNER, Jerusalem Post Reporter

That generations-old morsel of Judaica — the miniature New Year's greeting card — will soon fade into history, the victim of postal mechanization.

In a new regulation to be issued soon, the Communications Ministry will announce that beginning in August the postal service will no longer handle matter smaller than 9-by-14 cms.

"We know old habits are hard to shed," Communications Ministry information officer Zecharia Mizrotzky said yesterday. "But by mid-summer Tel Aviv's central mail sorting unit will be equipped with a new high-speed facing-and-cancelling machine. Test runs show that any card or envelope smaller than 9-by-14 cms. fouls up the works. The machine is a dandy, 20 times faster than a human sorter. We will eventually install them in our other mail sorting units throughout the country."

According to the Communications Ministry, Israel has been one of the last countries to conform to the new size standards recommended a few years ago by the Universal Postal Union, of which this country is a member. The Israeli postal system at present handles about 1.5 million items daily.

Several weeks ago Swiss postal authorities returned a batch of miniature New Year's cards and other small matter to Israel, marked "undeliverable because of size." A Ministry official said the Swiss move was a courtesy, since most countries would assign such mail to their dead letter departments.

Soldier held in booby-trap motorbike death

TEL AVIV. — A 20-year-old soldier from Tel Aviv was arrested on Sunday night on suspicion of having rigged a hand-grenade to a motorbike which killed Bat Yam resident Moshe Zafadia, 28.

The soldier is from Mrs. Zafadia's family. According to police, there have been bitter disputes over the past few years between Moshe Zafadia and his wife, and it is suspected that the young soldier wanted to put an end to these fights.

Tel Aviv police ruled out terrorists after they put together some of the fragments of the hand-grenade. It was an Israel army type. They were led to the suspect on hearing about the family feud. He is serving in a unit in the administered territories.

Detectives went to the soldier's base on Sunday night and arrested him. He was brought to the Holon police station for questioning.

It was reliably learned that he is cooperating with the police.

Visiting modern dance troupe starting tour

TEL AVIV. — The French Theatre Ballet Contemporain begins its 10-performance tour of Israel at the Mann Auditorium here tonight.

The modern ballet company, which met the press at Beit Sokolow in Tel Aviv yesterday, will also be giving performances in Jerusalem, Haifa, Beersheba, Netanya, Nahariya, Holon and Kiryat Bialik.

Members of the 50-strong company told newsmen that their repertoire tries to integrate "music, dance, design, painting and sculpture." *(Itim)*

Hit song decried for praising wall dauber

TEL AVIV. — The Nature Reserves Authority yesterday issued a statement attacking the winning song in the 1974 Israel Song Festival.

"We trust that we will never again have anymore so-called 'national heroes' such as Baruch Jamili who deface public places throughout the land." (The song referred to a Palmah fighter who in 1948 inscribed his name on a building on the road to Jerusalem).

The authority's statement read: "if indeed we get many more like him who gain encouragement from the ballad that won first prize in the Song Festival then the Nature Reserves Authority is apprehensive that as a consequence of this song we may have to compose a song in the none-too-distant future on the landscape of Israel disfigured by names inscribed in tar."

(See Page 10)

75 STUDENTS from the Gaza Strip and Sinai, who have been admitted to Egyptian universities, yesterday crossed over into Egypt under the auspices of the International Red Cross. The transfer took place on the Kantara-Baluza road.

Aled COUTURE
an israel speciality

Convict state's witness in bank robbery trial

TEL AVIV. — The trial of Aharon Keren and Asher Masar, charged with holding up three banks and making off with more than IL300,000 during the past year, opened in the District Court here on Sunday.

A third man, Haim Zakuto, 25, currently serving a four-year sentence for house-breaking, took the stand as state's witness. He agreed to describe in full two of the three robberies Keren and Masar are alleged to have committed — including his own part in them — in return for a deal with the prosecution to drop all charges against him.

The three robberies Keren and Masar are charged with (Zakuto admitted to driving the getaway car in the first and actually taking part in the second) are: the Bank Hapoalim branch in Rehov Hayarden, Ramat Gan, in March, 1973, taking IL28,000; the Bank Hapoalim branch in Nahalat Yitzhak in December (IL98,000); and the Bank Hapoalim branch in Hod Hasharon last January (IL175,000).

A fourth charge — the robbery of the Bank Le'umi branch in Zichron Ya'acov last October, in which IL22,000 was stolen — has been dropped for the time being, as the investigation continues. *(Itim)*

New Ashdod power unit being run in

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The new 228 megawatt generating unit at the Eshkol C power station in Ashdod is being run in. It is the largest single unit so far in the country and the first of two (the second will be completed in a year).

The Electric Corporation's installed capacity is now 1,630 megawatts in thermal stations, and another 240 megawatts in gas turbine operated units which are used during peak consumption and emergency periods. Work has started recently on a new power station, Eshkol D, at Ashdod.

A GROUP OF U.S. citizens living in Israel has formed an organization to work for the election of Sen. Henry Jackson as President in 1976. It is holding a founding meeting tonight at 8 p.m. at ZOA House in Tel Aviv. Any U.S. citizen interested in joining is asked to phone (02)528484 or (03)944522.

This landscape of a beach near Antibes, by the late Winston Churchill, is this month's Exhibit of the Month at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. The work is a gift from the Rothschild family. The late British statesman enjoyed painting as a pastime for many years — with the exception of the busy World War II years.

Industrial revolution came to Israel in 1967

Jerusalem Post Economic Correspondent

"Israel has undergone a genuine industrial revolution since 1967 — people do not realise how extensive it is," according to Gideon Lahav, retiring Director-General of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Addressing economic reporters at a farewell reception in the Jerusalem Press Club Sunday, he conceded that many businessmen clamour for extra protection against competing imports. "But when I ask them, 'Is it your firm that is in trouble?' they say 'Not me. I'm talking about the problems that others face'."

In fact Israel's manufacturing sector is thoroughly competent and competitive, Lahav feels.

The real problem lies in the future, and it is the shortage of manpower. "Industry needs 20,000-25,000 extra workers a year — net of drop-outs and retirements. That means one man out of every two new entrants in the labour force.

"Job-seekers do not want factory employment. This raises a key question, about the status of the industrial workers as against workers in the services. Employment in the services is more highly considered.

"Here I see no improvement, and perhaps even a regression," Lahav said gravely.

Questioned about the lag in exports, he declared firmly: "There is not enough investment. The problem is how you divide the cake between investment and consumption. There are no palliatives.

"The volume of export growth in Israel varies with the volume of production growth. Production cannot grow sufficiently unless a high level of investment is maintained.

"Our exporters do not lack orders. They just have no spare productive capacity to file them," he said.

Lahav added that "revolutionary changes" are being prepared in the Encouragement of Investments Law, which comes up for renewal next year. "Today an industrial firm either gets a lot of aid or nothing, according to certain set requirements.

"The new plan is to tailor the aid more exactly to the needs of the particular company. Criteria should include the nature of its activity, its location, and the purpose of the aid. If we want an industry to give employment in development areas, that requires one type of assistance. If we want it to export, that requires another.

"If it serves both purposes, it should get both types of assistance," he said.

Mr. Lahav has not yet chosen what new post he will take after leaving the Ministry, but will decide (he intimated) by the end of this week.

Earlier, the Minister, Haim Bar-Lev, held a reception for Mr. Lahav and for his successor Moshe Mandelbaum.

Beduin denied title to lands

BEERSHEBA. — The District Court here yesterday denied a plea of 17 Negev Beduin to register land occupied by them in their names. Instead the court acceded to a counter-plea to have title registered in the name of the State.

The court based its decision on the fact that the Beduin lead a nomadic existence, made necessary by the climatic conditions in the Negev. Thus, noted Judge Shlomo Elkayam, the applicants did not actually reside permanently on the land in question.

Neither the Beduin nor their antecedents had made use of the opportunity extended under the 1921 Land Registration Order, he added.

Testimony for the State included citations from Arab historian Aref el-Aref on the nature of the Beduin, as well as statistical figures on the agricultural potential of the land in question. One of the State witnesses, Beduin expert Sasson Bar-Zvi, testified that the group lived in tents rather than permanent dwellings. *(Itim)*

Higher overseas postal rates

Jerusalem Post Reporter

New higher international postal rates go into effect tomorrow. The increases were approved in March, along with higher domestic mail rates, but were delayed for a month to give the Communications Ministry a chance to satisfy Universal Postal Union requirements to notify postal authorities all over the world.

Following are some of the new rates, with the old ones in brackets. Full details are available in all post office branches.

- Airmail letters up to 10 grams: Europe, 80 agorot (65); North America, IL1.30 (IL1.10); South America, IL1.50 (IL1.25).
- Aerogrammes: Europe, 70 agorot (55); North America, 80 agorot (65); South America, 80 agorot (65).
- Airmail post cards: Europe, 60 agorot (50); North America, 80 agorot (65); South America, 90 agorot (70).

Trade deficit came to $2,500m.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Imports exceeded exports by $2.56 billion last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported this week. Capital imports during the year totalled $3,186 billion.

According to the bureau, the trade deficit during the last quarter of 1973 — the period that included the war — made up approximately half the trade gap. It said imports of defence items were responsible.

Month for calling policeman 'Nazi'

NETANYA. — A 22-year-old man was sentenced to a month's imprisonment by the Magistrate's Court here Sunday for calling a policeman "a Nazi."

Rahamim Lugasi, 22, hurled this epithet at the duty officer in the local police station who, following orders, refused to receive a food parcel Lugasi had brought for his brother in the lock-up.

Judge Segalson said he was "shocked to hear a Jewish man had actually called a Jewish policeman a Nazi — perhaps because he did not know just what this meant."

Lugasi apologized in Court — but he received the month's sentence, and, in addition, two months of a previously suspended sentence for trespassing were activated. *(Itim)*

Rotary conferences

Dr. W. Cegla, past governor of the Israel Rotary District, has been appointed by the World President of Rotary International as his special representative at Conferences of two West Germany Rotary Districts which will take place in Stuttgart and Trier.

This is the first time that an Israeli was appointed as representative of Rotary International for Germany.

Ministry of Transport
Controller of Road Transport

TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS FOR SLOW VEHICLES

er to assure the safe flow of traffic on busy interurban roads, been decided to forbid during peak hours traffic of slow vehicles ling non-motorized vehicles) which are not licensed or not e of driving at least 45 k.p.h., on additional road sections to where the traffic of slow vehicles is already prohibited. rohibition comes into effect on Wednesday, May 1, 1974, pplicable to crossing of the said sections) ad sections and hours are listed below:

number	Section	Location	Hours
1	Km. 21. 3-33	Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway (from Sha'ar Hagai to Mishmar Ayalon)	7.00-8.30 a.m. 3.30-4.30 p.m.
11	Km. 10-15	Tel Aviv-Hadera highway (Gilot junction to Kfar Shmaryahu junction)	7.00-8.30 a.m. 3.30-4.30 p.m.
13	Km. 0-44.5	Geha road (Ka'anana junction to Ashdod junction)	7.00-8.30 a.m. 3.30-4.30 p.m.
15	Km. 4. 5-6	Tel Aviv-Yahud road (Hatayasim junction to Mesubim junction)	7.00-8.30 a.m. 3.30-4.30 p.m.

e beginning of the above sections a road sign (No. B-53) will that entrance is permitted only to motorized vehicles, licensed apable of driving at least 45 k.p.h. Road sign No. A-43 below ign B-53 will state the hours during which entrance and traffic bidden.

rohibition is in addition to the prohibitions already in effect d No. 10 (Ganot-Ben-Gurion Airport), on road No. 20 (Hadera- which are in force 24 hours a day, and on road No. 12 (Ben- Airport-Bnei Atarot junction) during the hours shown on ad sign.

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Alfasud
Alfa Romeo

Arab States acting to crush Libyan subversion cells

By ANAN SAFADI
Jerusalem Post Arab Affairs Reporter

A number of Arab capitals have begun taking action to root out Libyan-backed anti-government cells, according to reports circulating in Amman.

The reports said steps were taken after Egypt provided information gleaned from those involved in the armed attack on the Cairo technical military academy 12 days ago. The Egyptians were said to have passed on details of subversive cells in Damascus, Amman, Beirut, Riyadh, Khartoum, Algiers, Tunis and Rabat.

In Cairo, the authorities said yesterday they were holding 80 persons in connection with the attack on the military academy. They said that the attack was planned as a prelude to a march on the headquarters of Egypt's single political party, the Arab Socialist Union, where President Anwar Sadat was due to speak. Eleven people were killed and over 30 were wounded in the attack on the academy.

Cairo's "Al-Gomhouriya" newspaper reported yesterday that the detainees could face the death penalty.

The Cairo press yesterday again claimed that the defendants, led by Palestinian-born Saleh Abdullah Sariya, an Arab League official, belonged to an underground movement sponsored by Libya. The assertion came after Libya denied any involvement in the organization. The Libyan Foreign Minister yesterday issued a statement saying that the attack on the Cairo military academy was a "purely Egyptian affair" and that Tripoli had nothing to do with it.

The Libyans confirmed that Sariya had conferred with their head of state Mu'ammer Gaddafi a few months ago. They noted, however, that Sariya was among an 11-man Palestinian delegation.

SADAT PLEDGE ON NON-ALIGNMENT

Jerusalem Post Arab Affairs Reporter

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat pledged yesterday to reconstruct Egypt and transform it into a modern state within the next 25 years. He cautioned however that the battle with Israel would continue until all territories lost in the 1967 war had been regained and the rights of the Palestinian people restored.

Sadat made his remarks in a recorded speech broadcast over Cairo radio networks after the new cabinet had been sworn in.

In a brief reference to international affairs, Sadat said that the new government's policy would be "based on non-alignment." Egypt had no intention of striving for the friendship of one big power at the expense of the other.

Recalling that he assumed the premiership in March 1973 to prepare Egypt for war against Israel, Sadat said that he was retaining the post in the new cabinet "because our battle is continuing until the evacuation of the last enemy soldier from Arab territory and until the rights of the Palestinian people are regained."

Sadat said that the government's reconstruction policy would be along the lines of the military plan which led to Egypt's "victory" in the crossing of the Suez Canal. The new cabinet would base its efforts on an "October working paper" visualising Egypt's political, economic and military rehabilitation and its transformation into a modern state by the year 2000. A national plebiscite on the paper would be held on May 15.

Sadat stressed Egypt's adherence to the principles of Nasser's 1952 revolution, but emphasised that he would promote his own political liberalisation and open-door economic policy.

Golda — 'Mother of the Decade'

NEW YORK (AP). — Israel Premier Golda Meir was named on Monday to receive the World Mother of the Decade award by the American Mothers Committee.

Mrs. Meir, 75, whose two children were born in the 1920s, is expected to accept the award in person at a May 10 luncheon, a Committee spokesman said.

Previous recipients of the award were Mrs. Gonzales Videla, the first lady of Chile, in 1952, and Mrs. John Glenn, mother of the first U.S. astronaut to circle the earth, in 1962.

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BATTLE OF TANKS IN MEKONG

SAIGON. — Communist troops in tanks moved into South Vietnam's Mekong Delta for the first time in the history of the Vietnam War on Sunday and attacked a key militia post near the Cambodian border.

The Saigon Military Command said five amphibious PT-76 light tanks moved out of Cambodia and attacked the outpost, which guards Tuyen Binh district capital, 93 kms. west of Saigon.

Military sources said 75 Communists were killed in the tank battle. The government admitted to two of its own men killed and 12 wounded. One government M-113 armoured personnel carrier was destroyed, the spokesman said.

It was the first time in three decades of warfare in Vietnam that Communist tanks have been officially reported as far south as the Mekong Delta, which contains seven million of South Vietnam's 20 million people.

"The use of the five Soviet-made amphibious PT-76 tanks showed that the offensive has really started," a Saigon spokesman said.

In a second big battle yesterday, Communist forces in the coastal highlands 500 kms. north of Saigon attacked and apparently overran an 100-man militia outpost near Bong Son and then ambushed reinforcements, the spokesman said.

In another development, the spokesman said that an investigation had determined that five explosions that ripped through a packed auditorium in a government military training centre 14 kms. north of Saigon last Thursday night were caused by grenades set off by the trainees.

Seventeen trainees were killed and 118 were wounded by the explosions. *(UPI, AP)*

Wanted IRA man caught by chance

BELFAST (UPI). — Police searching for a petty thief made the chance arrest on Sunday night of one of the most wanted men in Northern Ireland. He was Ivor Bell, 37, a former leader of the Extremist Provisional Wing of the Irish Republican Army.

He was arrested earlier this year, but walked out of prison two weeks ago after swapping places with another prisoner who had been given parole to be married.

A police source said Bell was detained in an apartment in the Protestant neighbourhood. They were making a routine check of the apartment as part of a search for a man seen moments earlier tampering with a car parked near by.

Bell is the former leader of the IRA Provisional Wing in Belfast.

Bonn cancels talks with Pankow

BONN (AP). — The West German government announced yesterday it has called off East Berlin talks planned for today, in which the two Germanies were to have settled the date for mutual accreditation of their first legal representatives in each other's capitals.

A Bonn Government spokesman made clear the move was a protest measure against the espionage role of Guenter Guillaume, 47, a close aide of Chancellor Brandt, who was arrested last week as an agent of the East German Ministry for State Security.

The spokesman refused to comment when asked what East German response to the protest move is required to get the accreditation talks resumed.

Former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans, left, and former Attorney-General John Mitchell after their aquittal on Sunday. (AP radiophoto)

Mitchell acquittal is boost for Nixon

NEW YORK. — The acquittal of two former Nixon Cabinet members has given the White House dramatic new encouragement in its Watergate battle — and may even influence the President's actions in responding to the investigation of his possible impeachment.

Sunday's acquittal of former Attorney-General John Mitchell and ex-Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans was one of the few boosts the White House has received since the Watergate scandal burst last year.

White House comment on the verdict was restricted to spokesman Gerald Warren's comment that "the President was very pleased for the two men and their families." But the acquittal could not fail to have elated the President politically.

It was thought that the verdict might well strengthen his hand in a possible decision to provide only edited versions of the 42 subpoenaed tape recordings demanded by the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee looking into grounds for his impeachment.

The White House announced yesterday that President Nixon will make a nationally televised and broadcast address at 0100 GMT today to announce his response to the Judiciary Committee's subpoena and "to disclose other decisions in relation to the Watergate matter."

Deputy Press Secretary Gerald Warren, in announcing plans for Nixon's prime time address to the nation, refused to say what Nixon's response would be, and Warren also refused to elaborate on what he meant by "other decisions." *(Reuter, AP, UPI)*

Alleged anti-semitic remark

WASHINGTON (JTA). — The White House said yesterday that it was not the case when questioned by a JTA reporter about alleged anti-semitic remarks by President Nixon on tapes sought by the House Judiciary Committee dealing with impeachment charges.

A claim that the tapes "include some anti-ethnic and specifically anti-semitic remarks by the President" was made by syndicated Washington columnist Robert Novak on the CBS "Face the Nation" television programme on Sunday.

Novak spoke about the issue in a question to Senator Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.).

Javits said: "I think the public can understand those things. I'm Jewish and I can understand them. I don't approve of them. I don't tolerate them ... I feel very seriously against. But none the less in the running conversation of a man in high office, with a lot of things on his mind, and sometimes expressing a passionate feeling if somebody has annoyed him — it's not admirable — but I think it will be understood."

Egyptian offers to help Nixon

CAIRO (UPI). — The thaw in American-Egyptian relations so delighted Salem Shanab that he wrote off to President Richard Nixon offering to help meet the President's bill for back taxes, the U.S. Embassy said yesterday.

Shanab, Mayor of the village of Matania near Giza, said he would chip in LE1,000 ($2,500) in appreciation of Nixon's stand on the Middle East which showed an understanding of Egypt's problems.

U.S. Ambassador to Cairo, Herman Eilts, sent Shanab a letter on Nixon's behalf, expressing "deep appreciation for his feelings. But the President requested the Ambassador to convey his apologies for being unable to accept Mr. Shanab's offer of assistance in settling his tax bill," an Embassy spokesman said.

Wilson sets up probe into corruption

LONDON (AP). — Prime Minister Harold Wilson announced yesterday the setting up of a Royal Commission to study sources of possible corruption in local and national government.

The decision follows a corruption scandal in the Newcastle area, where local officials and civil servants were convicted of bribery in arranging contracts for public buildings.

Although a local affair, the corruption allegations involved people with close links to nationally prominent figures in both major political parties: Mr. Dan Smith, former leader of the Newcastle City Council, had ties with senior figures in Wilson's government, and John Poulson, the architect charged with corruption in the scandals, had worked with a former Conservative Cabinet Minister.

Wilson said the terms of reference of the inquiry would be announced later. When an opposition lawmaker suggested the commission would sweep scandals under the rug, Wilson replied: "A lot of things have been going on under stones, and it is the desire of every member of this House that these stones should be turned over."

Austria President is buried

VIENNA (AP). — Franz Jonas, 74, who rose from typesetter to the Presidency of Austria, was buried here yesterday in a state funeral attended by royalty and top leaders of East and West.

Jonas died last Wednesday of cancer.

Among the dignitaries attending the funeral were Presidents Gustav Heinemann of West Germany, Ernst Brugger of Switzerland, Giovanni Leone of Italy, Pal Losonczi of Hungary, Henryk Jablonski of Poland, Willi Stoph of East Germany, Urho Kekkonen of Finland and ruling prince Franz Josef II of Lichtenstein, and U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim.

Row over British rugby tour

TUNIS (Reuter). — Africa's top sporting body yesterday threatened a sporting boycott of Britain if it allowed the British Lions rugby tour of South Africa next month to go ahead.

The Supreme Council of Sport in Africa (CSSA) said a total boycott of South Africa was essential to combat racial discrimination in sport.

In a resolution at the end of a three-day meeting of its executive council here, the CSSA asked its members, 41 African nations, "to suspend sporting relations between Britain and Africa if the British Government does not have the tour cancelled."

The Council also expressed its regret at the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) decision not to allow the World Gymnastic Championships to take place in Bulgaria.

The dollar falls again

LONDON. — The U.S. dollar plunged to its lowest value in six months on world money markets yesterday. The price of gold also fell.

For most of the day the dollar drifted slowly lower in exchange rate value, as it has been drifting almost without interruption for several weeks. Then in the last hour or so of trading the American currency dropped hard, plunging to six-month lows in Frankfurt and London.

By late afternoon in London it took $2.434 to buy a British pound. Not since November 6, 1973, when a pound cost $2.439, has the dollar sunk so low on the London currency exchange.

London dealers blamed the dollar's drop on persistent rumours that West Germany would upvalue the mark.

In Brussels the dollar sank below the level of 38 Belgian francs on the official market for the first time since November 8. It closed at 37.75 Belgian francs.

In Zurich the dollar bought 2.9210 Swiss francs against 2.9650 on Friday. Dealers there said that the main depressing factors were the U.S. deficit of $181m. in March coupled with political uncertainties, inflation and the effects of higher fuel costs.

Kuwait aid

KUWAIT (Reuter). — Kuwait continues to rate Egypt a "confrontation state" entitled to aid under the Khartoum Arab summit decision of 1967, government officials here said Sunday.

Minister of State Abdel-Aziz Hussein was asked after a cabinet meeting about Kuwait's attitude to Egypt in the light of an interview with Libyan leader, Col. Muammar Gaddafi.

Russians stop Jew from telephoning

MOSCOW (UPI). — A Leningrad Jew, Mikhail Struguch, 35, was arrested on Saturday as he prepared to speak to an audience in the U.S. by telephone, friends said yesterday.

The friends said Struguch was turned down last May when he applied to emigrate to Israel with his wife and young son. They said he received a telegram from a Rabbi Roos in the U.S. asking him to read a statement about his situation to an audience of 250 persons in Tucson, Arizona.

Although Struguch did not know Roos, the friends said, he was en route to the central telegraph office to make the phone call when police arrested him. His wife, Lena, was later told by police he was being held on suspicion of carrying a weapon.

The friends described Struguch as a mechanical engineer. They said he once worked for a scientific research institute, then for a factory but lost his job after he applied to go to Israel.

He was previously held for 15 days for protesting the refusal of authorities to let him emigrate, the friends said.

Soviet holds would-be emigrants as addicts

By COLIN SHINDLER
Special to The Jerusalem Post

LONDON. — Reports from the Soviet Union have indicated that a growing number of applicants for emigration to Israel have been imprisoned in a special clinic for drug addicts in the town of Novgorod Sivirsky in the Ukraine.

The most detailed case is that of Maximillian Kessler of Odessa. On December 20, Kessler's wife, Ella Baru, went to the emigration office to ask whether there had been an answer to their request to leave for Israel. She was told that they had indeed been granted permission to leave, but should return with her husband to sign the relevant documents. An hour later, husband and wife returned to be greeted by Officer Abramov of the Central Police Department.

Kessler was immediately detained as a "drug addict" and sent to the Novgorod Sivirsky labour camp to begin a one-year sentence.

Last September Kessler had a serious stomach operation. Following standard procedure, his wife, a qualified nurse, administered injections of morphine to kill the pain for a number of days afterwards. This is a recognised practice in international medicine.

Another inmate of this special clinic is one Fleisher, who applied to emigrate to Israel on July 5 of last year. Three weeks later he was picked up on a charge of pushing narcotics. The head of the Kiev emigration office told his wife that he had no objection to her departure, except that she should divorce her husband before going.

Even more disquietening is the recent news from Novgorod Sivirsky that 15 or more people who had applied to leave the USSR are interned in this camp. At least three are known to be from Odessa.

Maximillian Kessler was committed without a court order, and it is perfectly possible that this is the case with the others as well.

These people have been told that if they work well and behave themselves, their sentences may be shortened.

News of the hitherto unknown happenings at Novgorod Sivirsky were given by telephone by Kessler's wife to his mother, who emigrated to Israel in 1970.

In doing so, Kessler's wife has apparently incurred the wrath of the local KGB, and she too has now been interned in the Slobodka Psychiatric Hospital in Odessa, also as a "drug addict." Her sister was told that she would spend three months in the institution.

A MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY FROM THE JEWS OF AMERICA
TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL
ON THE 26th ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

L'AM HAYOSHEV B'ZION SHALOM U'VRACHA

We, your Jewish brothers in America, share the trials and tragedy you have known since Yom Kippur.
We trust your internal political issues will soon be resolved.
We take pride in your achievements and share with every fibre of our being your determination to live in security, in dignity and peace.
To you we give this solemn pledge: the people of Israel do not stand alone; all our strength, our concern and our commitment shall be mobilized in the noble task of defending the Land of Israel and building the Jewish State.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS
Rabbi Israel Miller, Chairman

American Israel Public Affairs Committee
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Mizrachi Women's Organization
American Trade Union Council for the Histadrut
American Zionist Federation
Anti-Defamation League
B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Women
B'nai Zion
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Hadassah
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.
Labor Zionist Alliance
Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Young Yisrael
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council
National Jewish Welfare Board
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Pioneer Women
Rabbinical Assembly
Rabbinical Council of America
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Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
United Synagogue of America
Women's American ORT
Women's League for Conservative Judaism
World Zionist Organization — American Section, Inc.
Zionist Organization of America

هكذا من الأصل

PORTUGAL: THE LEFT-WING COMES OUT OF THE COLD

LISBON. — Portugal's ruling military junta yesterday declared May Day a national holiday, as political leaders used their new-found freedom to jostle for a role in the provisional government to be set up soon.

Communists, socialists and other left-wing organizations, deprived of normal functioning under the ousted right-wing regime of Prime Minister Marcello Caetano, have all called for big demonstrations on May Day, tomorrow.

Political observers said that what happens during this traditional workers' festival will be the first major test of junta leader General Spinola's bold move in restoring democratic freedoms after a half-century of authoritarian rule.

He has pledged to set up a provisional government by the middle of May as a prelude to free general elections within a year.

Following last week's coup, left-wing groups immediately emerged from underground to rally their supporters and press their views.

The Portuguese socialist leader, Dr. Mario Soares, returned from five years in French exile on Sunday and almost immediately saw General Spinola.

Yesterday the 64 year old general had a meeting with Dr. Jose Tengarrinha, a leader of the broad-based opposition who was himself freed from jail after the coup.

Dr. Tengarrinha and his Democratic Electoral Commission (CDE) cover a wide range of opinion from liberal to far left.

The Portuguese Communist Party, after half a century of clandestine activity, is rapidly organizing itself to meet the new situation. It is even being quoted in the press and radio — something unthinkable under the old regime.

The party hailed the military takeover, but a leading member, Dr. Francisco Jorge, told reporters that the Communists could not go along with the junta's "colonial policy."

The left-wing parties all want immediate independence for the overseas territories of Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea.

General Spinola wants to keep the territories in the Portuguese fold — as autonomous states within a Lusitanian Federation.

In further moves to sweep away the last traces of the 46-year dictatorship, the junta announced the end of film and theatre censorship.

(Reuter, UPI)

Socialist leader Mario Soares photographed on his return to Portugal after five years of exile in France. (AP radiophoto)

Africans suspicious of Spinola's plans

NAIROBI (Reuter). — Although a chill of anticipation swept through Black Africa at the news of the overthrow of the Portuguese regime last week, it is agreed by most political observers here that it will take more than the sudden emergence of General Spinola to uproot Portugal from the continent.

It was the middle of the 15th century when Portuguese explorers, sailing the globe to increase their country's power and wealth, first reached Africa's West Coast, to be followed by the great Vasco de Gama, who rounded the Cape of Good Hope and explored the east-ern coastline.

By the beginning of the 16th century he had been followed by a military expedition, traders, Catholic missionaries and finally white settlers. In the Portuguese African territories of Guinea Bissau, Angola and Mozambique the settlers have farms which go down 200 years or more — far deeper than was the case in any British or French colonies.

The question now being asked in Africa, both black and white, is whether General Spinola is the man to "do a De Gaulle" and solve his country's problems by opting out of colonial commitments.

The general was dismissed by the newly deposed premier, Dr. Marcello Caetano, for advocating in a book that Portugal seek a political rather than a military solution to the colonial problem.

Despite the fact that in general African reaction is one of pleasure to see the old regime swept aside, it is far from certain that the guerrilla movements in the Portuguese territories will be willing to go along with Spinola's scenario for the continent.

It was noted by observers that in his policy declaration last Friday night the general's first point was to guarantee the survival of Portugal in its "multi-continental entirety" — a clear indication that he intends to continue the old Portuguese promise that the African territories are part of Portugal.

And to add to African misgivings about General Spinola's intentions, he told a press conference that "at this moment" he had no intentions of entering into contact with the guerrillas. Whether he will be given the chance, even if he wants it, is far from sure.

The impression here is that the African freedom movements will be in no hurry to rush to welcome General Spinola until they see exactly what his intentions are and whether he is in a position with his own junta to radically alter Portugal's Africa policy.

They look on him with some suspicion as a devoted servant of the Salazar and Caetano regimes who, if he has changed his mind, has only been forced to do so by military reverses at the hands of the guerrillas.

NY fashion show sells $2m. in bonds

NEW YORK (JTA). — More than $2m. in Israel Bonds were sold at a fashion show by Israeli designers in the New York Hilton last week. Reservations to the show and luncheon were by a minimum purchase of $1,000 dollars in Israel Bonds.

OPIATE OF SPAIN'S PEOPLE

MADRID (UPI). — A leading right-wing politician and a general have warned Spaniards of the dangers of "confusion," and said "political parties are opiates for the people."

The statements, published Sunday, did not directly refer to events in Portugal, on which the Spanish Government has remained quiet so far, but they reflected a growing nervousness among right-wingers about the overthrow of the Caetano regime.

Reporting events in Portugal, Spanish newspapers came out with banner headlines such as "Elections and political freedom" and "The people in jubilation."

It was clearly in a reaction to events in Portugal that former Labour Minister Jose Giron, a leader of the Falange Movement, and Gen. Tomas Garcia Rebull, until last year the commander of the military region of Madrid, made their statements.

In a statement spread over the entire first two pages of the Falangist newspaper "Arriba," Giron said: "We are living in difficult times. But we will not be defeated by confusion — a confusion orchestrated and certainly inspired from inside and outside Spain.

"Phony liberals and persons infiltrated in the administration and high offices of power dream of bells ringing to announce the liquidation of the regime of Francisco Franco..."

Rebull, in an interview published on the front page of "Nuevo Diario," next to a headline reporting that the Portuguese junta was troubled by street disturbances, said he had found "scandalous social differences" in the liberal democracies he visited. He added: "With what do the liberals play? With capital... political parties are the opiate of the people, and politicians its vampires."

Opposition sources said events in Portugal have had a great impact on Spanish youth, intellectuals and workers.

They said some of the reaction might come to the surface on May Day, traditionally a day of tension in a country where strikes and free trade unions are outlawed.

Ford Cuba deal

BUENOS AIRES (AP). — Ford Motor Argentina will sign a $30m. contract for sales of cars and trucks to Cuba here today, a Ford official announced.

MORE SOVIET ADVISERS ARRIVING

Syrians 'don't want a full-scale war'

By K.C. THALER

LONDON (UPI). — The Soviet Union has sent a new batch of advisers to Syria, Middle East sources said here yesterday.

The Russians have also promised the Damascus leadership they will not permit a Syrian defeat in the event of renewed full-scale hostilities with Israel, the sources said.

At the same time, it is said, the Syrian regime appears anxious not to go over the brink to full-scale war, but rather wants to use its present militancy largely as a lever to improve its position at the conference table.

The Russians are also reported to have offered Syria new long and short-term aid.

The Soviet Union had a large number of advisers in Syria until last autumn, when most of them left on the eve of the war with Israel. But some stayed behind in an active role, and others have returned since the Russians began sending new arms to replace the vast quantities lost in the fighting.

The sources said that a new flow of "advisers" is now in progress. The Syrians have lost many of their trained tank crews and of the personnel operating the air defences.

The Russians are said to be training pilots in the USSR and on the spot, and also personnel for the latest Sam-9, which have multiple warheads. The Soviet Union is also reportedly supplying a new type of radar-linked anti-aircraft fast firing gun against low-flying Israeli jets.

One report said yesterday that Syria has received 500 new tanks from Moscow. A similar number lost in the October War has already been replaced.

The new emphasis in the Russian-devised defence strategy in Syria has been on fortifying the defence lines guarding Damascus. Particularly heavy air defences have been set up.

Western diplomatic reports from Moscow, analyzing the latest Soviet Middle East strategy, say the Russians do not want a new war in the region because they fear it would mean the end of the policy of detente between the superpowers.

But they are stiffening the Syrian stance and actively encouraging its militancy as an alternative to its fading influence elsewhere in the Middle East, notably in Egypt.

The Russians, the reports say, want to be seen to be actively backing an Arab ally to the point of direct involvement to embarrass Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and encourage resistance from other Arab regimes to his shift toward the U.S.

It is thought that the Russians will not torpedo Kissinger's current effort to reach a disengagement between Syria and Israel, but they want to make sure that they will get a share of the credit for any future peace development, while at the same time securing their foothold. However, apparently they do not even feel sure of all-out Syrian cooperation, despite the support they are lavishing on Damascus.

"The Guardian" reported here yesterday that about 3,000 Soviet military advisers are believed to be deployed in Syria, concentrated increasingly in missile defence systems. North Korean pilots are said to be flying in the country to stand in for Syrian pilots on advanced courses in Russia.

PARTY TALKS

(Continued from page one)

when she proposed that the Alignment negotiating delegation also hold a meeting with Likud representatives, to improve the Alignment's image in the eyes of the public even though realistic results might be expected from such a conversation.

Pinhas Sapir said he would head the negotiations if the party charged him with this task. "I am ready to offer whatever help I can," he promised, scoffing at press insinuations that he and Premier Golda Meir were conspiring to sabotage Rabin's prospects.

The meeting approved Sapir as head of the negotiating team, which he was the last time. The team is the same one, with the addition of Yitzhak Rabin and Seif-e-Din Zuabi.

The feeling in the Knesset about Rabin's prospects was that the NRP would be hard to swing round after Chief Rabbi Goren's hardline statement of last night about amending the law.

Labour Party sources said last night that Rabin would be willing to work on a 61-man coalition of the Alignment, the ILP and the CRM if the NRP let him down. They did not rule out the possibility that this would scare the NRP at the last minute into joining.

Strong objections inside Labour to a coalition without the NRP, were uttered by two ex-Rafi MKs — Gad Ya'acobi and David Coren. They said a government commanding 61 or 58 votes would be unpalatable to Rafi and in any case too dovish on territories and security. "We'd do better to make concessions to the NRP on the 'Who's Jew' issue than on critical political issues," the Rafi men said.

But one Alignment personality not known for his sympathies with Rafi predicted that Rafi's worries about the government being too dovish would be allayed if Shimon Peres got the Defence Portfolio.

Mark Segal adds:

It is understood that supporters of Mr. Rabin are urging him to form a government of any kind, even a minority government, which could survive as a caretaker cabinet until elections in the autumn.

Their reasoning is that if this is not done Mr. Rabin's mandate to head the Alignment election list will be challenged in the Central Committee when the time comes. However, if he became head of government for even a short time, he will automatically become head of the next list and thus be confirmed in power for future years.

Aloni rushes home

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Shulamit Aloni, MK., head of the Citizens Rights Movement, has decided to cut short her U.S. visit in order to meet with Yitzhak Rabin on the possibility of her party's joining his government.

Mrs. Aloni, who has been here for the last week on a speaking tour, was originally due to return home on Friday, but will now leave today.

New strikes feared in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (Reuter). — The Ethiopian cabinet met in emergency session yesterday in a bid to avert a possible nation-wide shut-down of communications, electricity and water today.

The meeting follows an appeal by Prime Minister Endalkachew Makonnen, which was endorsed by a military coordinating committee, for all striking workers to return to their jobs.

According to Addis Ababa Radio, the Premier has branded the proposed strike as illegal, the workers concerned are employed by the government, and therefore forbidden to strike, and warned it would cause great harm to the nation. The employees argue that as the government agencies are profit-making organisations engaged in commercial activities the workers should be allowed to form trade unions.

Householders filled baths and buckets with water and stocked up on candles and matches. Grocers, with fresh meat in their freezers, face serious financial losses from an electrical shut-down.

The strike, if it goes ahead, will cut off communications between Ethiopia and the outside world, and silence all internal broadcasting services.

Meanwhile, the armed forces appeared to be withdrawing from the streets of Addis Ababa with the announcement that the military coordinating committee had been disbanded.

A communique issued over Addis Ababa Radio yesterday morning said that since the situation was once again peaceful and since the armed forces committee had completed its mission, the committee members had returned to their normal duties.

The committee was responsible for the arrest of some 25 ex-ministers and officials of the former government as well as several army and police generals.

Aeroflot crash was ninth in 18 months

LENINGRAD (UPI). — Soviet technicians yesterday began piecing together the wreckage of an Aeroflot Ilyushin IL-18 turbojet to determine why it crashed on take-off on Saturday, killing all 108 passengers and crew, Western airline sources said.

The crash of the internal flight to Krasnodar was Aerflot's ninth known accident in the past 18 months. An estimated 562 persons have died in the crashes.

No foreigners were known to have been aboard the flight, and Soviet news media, as is their usual practice, made no mention of the crash.

Westerners who witnessed the accident on Saturday evening said the airliner plummeted in flames after one of its four engines appeared to explode seconds after take-off.

They said the plane could be clearly seen burning in a field three kms. from the end of the runway. Pandemonium immediately broke out inside the modern cement and glass terminal building with relatives and friends of the passengers screaming and crying, they said.

Yesterday the airline sources said technicians were still at the crash site, apparently moving pieces of fuselage and engine to a hangar for an investigation.

The crash was the first known to have hit Aeroflot, the Soviet Union's only domestic carrier, this year. Three crashes during the last three months of 1973 caused an estimated 160 fatalities and prompted the Civil Aviation Ministry to publish an article stressing the need for improved flight safety techniques.

Other Soviet crashes during the past 18 months included the supersonic Tupolev 144 at the Paris Air Show and an Ilyushin 62 in October, 1972, which killed 176 persons and was at that time civil aviation's worst air disaster.

Khrushchev papers: Regrets ban on Pasternak book

PARIS (Reuter). — The late Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev said in memoirs published here yesterday he regretted his decision not to approve publication of Boris Pasternak's prize-winning novel, "Dr. Zhivago."

"If I had said I was in favour of publication, it would have been approved. But I did nothing and today I regret it," he said in the memoirs, excerpts of which were published in the weekly magazine "L'Express."

Referring to the measures taken against Pasternak after the publication of the novel in the West, Krushchev said that in creative matters "administrative measures are always harmful and anti-progressist. His book was banned and the decision to use police methods gave a tone to the affair which made a bad impression for a long time."

The excerpts dealt largely with Khrushchev's visit to France in 1960. He said that for a long time the Soviet leadership had considered General De Gaulle "an idiot and a fascist" but later came to see him as "a very smart man."

"As far as foreign policy was concerned we considered him one of the most intelligent statesmen in the world, at least of the bourgeois leaders", Krushchev said. But his ideal of a European community stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals was impracticable, he said.

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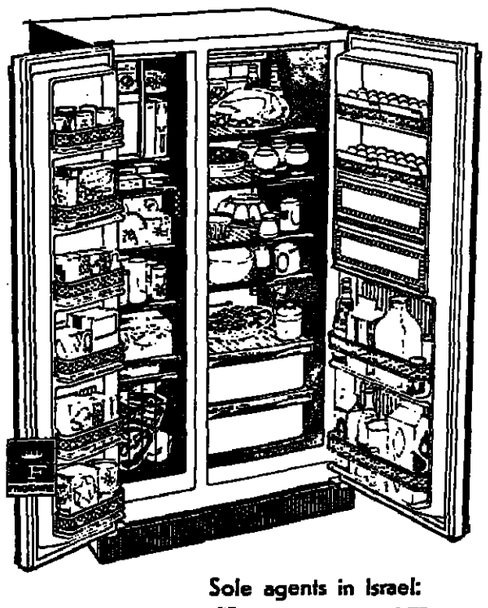

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STATE COMPTROLLER REPORTS

THE TREASURY

BORROWING DEAR, LENDING CHEAP

By DAVID KRIVINE

AN important part of the State Comptroller's report this year is devoted to analysing the gigantic system of subsidised credit that is being underwritten by the Government. Ever since 1968, the Treasury and the banks have been borrowing dear, and lending cheap.

The purpose is, on the one hand, to encourage savings by linking bonds to the cost-of-living index, and on the other hand to promote economic growth, by permitting the issue of non-linked development and housing loans.

Six years ago the Knesset Finance Committee decided that recipients of such non-linked credits would be charged an extra 3-4 per cent as a premium payable to the State, which could then be seen as "insuring" the linkage. But the insurance system does not work, for two reasons. First, the price index has risen by more than 3-4 per cent a year; and second, in most cases the Treasury receives less than the full premium, or even no premium at all.

The Bank of Israel has recently blamed the subsidised-credit system for causing inflation. The State Comptroller addresses himself to another problem — the massive growth of the Government's internal debt, due to an overgenerous and insufficiently discriminating method of distributing "soft" loans.

The Treasury has an exact record of loans issued by the Government under the Budget. By March 31 of last year, the State debt included linked credits to the sum of IL12,390m. The cost of the linkage provision up to that date had already topped IL4,000m.

Then there are the bond issues made by banks and other financial institutions, which have nothing to do with the Budget but are underwritten by the Government all the same, because they finance "directed" credit (for young couples' housing and other approved purposes).

No record

The State Comptroller points out that the Treasury has no systematic record of these extra-budgetary commitments. "Only when a claim for linkage insurance comes in from a bank or other agency does the Accountant-General get a detailed statement, which he can then check with the original Treasury authorisation."

The report estimates that the linkage obligation already due on non-Government loans of this kind comes to around IL5,000m. In other words the authorities are responsible for paying linkage costs (on Government and non-Governments loans) of over IL8,000m.

In 1972 alone, the issue of linked bonds (excluding compulsory loans) amounted to IL3,650m. One-quarter were Government bonds. More than 85 per cent of the rest were floated by three groups — Bank Leumi, Hevrat Ovdim (the Histadrut), and Discount Bank. Of the money raised IL2,433m. went to finance the State Budget, and IL626m. was directed credit. Only IL593m., or a little over 15 per cent, remained for the free use of the issuing institutions. Accordingly 85 per cent of the bonds enjoy linkage from the Government.

What about the insurance premiums? They exist, but (by now) in a minority of transactions. Development loans to enterprises that are not strictly industrial (bakeries, flour mills, cold storage plants) fetch 12 per cent interest, so the premium comes in these cases to 3.59 per cent, according to the report.

If the borrower is an industrial company proper, then the interest is only 9 per cent. But the cost of this loan to the Government includes a 6.5 per cent return on the bonds, 0.66 per cent for the outlay on selling the security, and 1.75 per cent as bank charges, making a total of 8.91 per cent. This leaves no more than 0.09 per cent for the insurance premium.

For industrial plants situated in development areas, the fee charged varies between 6.5 and 8 per cent, or less than the *interest* (let alone the linkage) that the Government has to finance.

Premium

A company that bought one of the bankrupt Autocars plants was given a IL10m. loan for 12 years at 9 per cent unlinked. The cost of the loan to the bank was 8.73 per cent, all of it (except for less than one per cent) index-linked. So the Government was getting a premium for linkage insurance of 0.27 per cent.

Mortgage loans go mostly to social housing. In March 1972, the Government decided to authorise loans even for those who do not qualify under the various "social" categories, provided the apartment is not more than 100 sq. metres in size, and does not exceed a certain price. The ceiling price has been increased since 1972, and so has the interest charged. The maximum price since August of last year is IL160,000 (IL180,000 in Jerusalem), and the maximum loan is IL40,000 (IL50,000 in Jerusalem). Interest is 16 per cent, including 7.25 per cent for linkage insurance. (A cheaper flat rates a smaller loan at lower interest).

It should be recalled, for purpose of comparison (though the State Comptroller does not mention it) that the c.o.l. index rose in 1973 by 25 per cent, and is expected to go up as much again this year.

Social housing, for immigrants, young couples, large families etc., offers easier terms. Budget funds are loaned for 20-30 years at 7.5 per cent interest. But only 2 per cent is charged in the first five years, and 4 per cent in the next five years. Where loans constitute a package-deal of Budget funds and the more expensive bank finance together, the terms are 4.75 per cent for the first four years, rising to 9 per cent in the seventh year, the redemption period being 17 years.

Says the report: "The Treasury covers linkage costs in these cases without any premium, and even defrays part of the interest costs in the first years."

The formula is that the Budget supplies two-thirds of the loan, the bank one-third. But even that is not always carried out. In one case the State was supposed to provide IL25m. and the bank IL12.5m. At the bank's request, its share was reduced to IL5m. In the end it forked out only IL2.5m., though the Treasury's share remained the full IL25m.

The State Comptroller calculates that during the years 1968 to 1973, housing loans on subsidised terms were issued to the sum of IL1,972m. Including interest the sum to be defrayed averages IL266m. a year. The insurance premiums to be received total IL30.3m. a year (which would cover, it should be pointed out, a one-time price rise of 11.4 per cent and no more).

The State Comptroller examined housing loans for which the banks had already submitted statements to the Treasury (concerning linkage costs accumulated up to December 1973). The loans, including interest due till the time of redemption, total IL1,000m. The linkage costs to be paid by the Government over the period of the loans, assuming the c.o.l. index does not rise any further, amount to IL550m.

The report criticises the authorities for allowing excessive bank charges. The banks receive up to 9 per cent linked, for money derived from bonds costing 6.5 per cent. This 9 per cent is levied even on loans which are guaranteed by the State, where the risk element is nil. The State Comptroller suggests to Finance Minister Sapir that guarantees be confined to loans from the State-owned Industrial Development Bank, which should charge less than 9 per cent, under the circumstances.

Two banks using foreign capital were allowed a margin of 3 per cent. They also took a disagio of six per cent, which is equivalent to another 3 per cent interest, making 6 per cent in all — this being additional to the cost of the capital itself.

Time gap

Quite apart from bank charges, there happens also to be a useful time gap in these deals. The householder pays his monthly dues to the bank before the bank is required to shell out to its bondholders. In some cases the Treasury authorised shortening the mortgage loan period from 20 years to 17 and even 15 years, while permitting a longer redemption period for bond issues, from 17 to 20 years. As a result a bank may get its money back from the householder in larger quantities than it currently needs — which leaves it with cash in hand for substantial periods.

It must be said that the linkage provision has fostered a boom in the bond market, which helps the Government to finance its expenditures. The Budget for 1972/73 scheduled a revenue of IL16,385m., including a loan from the Bank of Israel (that is, a deficit) of IL650m. In the event, receipts came to IL18,010m., and the IL650m. "overdraft" was not called upon.

Chief boost was in internal loans. Originally predicted to yield IL730m., the estimate was more than doubled to IL1,558m. (in a Supplementary Budget voted later in the year). Actual subscriptions came to IL2,177m.

The Government's liabilities rose to IL8,936m. in 1972/73, of which IL2,421m. was linkage dues. The rest was increased debt, local and foreign. Assets grew in the same period by IL1,175m.

The disparity between assets and liabilities is due to the following causes. First, the Development Budget is employed in part to create resources that do not have a monetary price-tag — roads, harbours, etc. Second, some of the budgetary outlay takes the form of grants. Third, loan money, which increases the national debt, is now used to finance not only the Development Budget, but also the Ordinary Budget (which does not create assets). The sums in question came to IL1,000m. in 1971/72, IL1,400m. in 1972/73. Finally, the compulsory loans, which also have to be repaid, are devoted entirely to financing the Ordinary Budget.

Price support

The report criticises insufficient clarity when budgeting, where this shortcoming exists. The Budget allocates IL2.6m. for price support to petroleum products, a sum which was raised to IL10.1m. in the Supplementary Budget. Yet actual expenditure turned out to be merely IL2.3m.

An investigation showed that the real sum spent was IL29.6m., or three times the provision authorised in the Supplementary Budget. The bulk of this outlay appears separately, in the accounts of the Fuel Equalisation Fund. The State Comptroller has recommended before that the whole operation of the Fund should figure in the Budget.

A case was found where the same recipient got two allocations under different headings. Immigrant associations were granted IL275,000 under "Various Expenditures," when they had already been granted IL1,000,000 under "Immigrant Absorption Ministry." Both sums should appear under the Absorption Ministry, the report says.

The Israel Corporation (IC) purchased 26 per cent of shares in the Haifa Refineries, for $12m. Valuations for the purpose of this sale were not consistent. In January 1969, the company chairman estimated it was worth around IL240m. In August of the same year, a team of professionals sent by the Treasury gave a range of IL210m.-250m., depending on alternative assumptions. Net asset value, according to the balance-sheet on December 31, 1969, was IL156.8m.

Two foreign financial companies, both eminent in their field, assessed the enterprise in June 1970 at IL85m. Both the assessing companies are Board members of the Israel Corporation. Two months before, the Treasury had offered to base the transaction on a figure of IL120m. This was accepted.

Stiff terms were exacted by the IC. Their equity is linked to the dollar (that is, if the Israel pound is devalued, they will get bonus shares in compensation). Their dividend must be at least 9 per cent, though the Government is to get only 6.75 per cent on its holding. If profits are greater still, the surplus has to be distributed, half in cash — which limits the possibility of building up reserves for investment, the State Comptroller points out. (However, according to the Treasury, no dividends above 9 per cent have been decided to date.)

Should Government policy keep profits below the level needed to provide a 9 per cent dividend, IC has the right during the first ten years to sell its shares back for the original purchase price in dollars, plus 8 per cent, minus any dividend paid. (This is presumably intended to prevent the Government from clapping, for political reasons, a non-economic price on refinery products.)

In addition the IC demanded a 100-year concession for operating the refineries, to be embodied in a Knesset law. Failing that, it wants its money back, plus 9 per cent interest (not just 8 per cent, as above), minus dividends paid. This law is not yet passed. The IC has given the Government till May 26, 1976, to pass it.

Refinery loan

The IC has loaned $16m. to the company, for constructing the Ashdod refinery. The advance is for 12 years, dollar-linked, and the interest is to be one per cent above the Euro-dollar rate.

The State Comptroller points out that the IC has bought an asset for a price which was not based on any exhaustive valuation. It possesses a risk-free investment, and a return that is guaranteed for at least ten years. These would be generous terms on any account. But the IC is already endowed with fiscal privileges (including remission of income tax for 30 years) under a special law to encourage this type of investment. It appears that the company is benefitting twice over.

The Government's shares in Rogozin Textiles, in Ashdod, were sold to a foreign company for IL28.1m. Again, the authorities appear unduly lenient. The buyers were required to pay IL6m. in cash and the rest in annual instalments, with interest. But allowing for capitalisation at the rate of 15 per cent a year (the rate used in valuing the company), the true price paid can be estimated as only IL24.2m.

The price did not include 700 dunams of land adjacent to the factory. The neighbouring Ashdod refinery bought 400 dunams of it — and the remaining 300 dunams was left with Rogozin Textiles after all, free of charge. (It was worth close to IL3m., the report believes.) Also the company had considerable cash reserves, so the purchasers did not have to pay out much of their own capital. (This is denied by the Treasury, which points out that the money in the reserves was already pledged to investment in new machinery.)

Changed horses

The report draws attention to the fact that both in the sale of the refineries and the textile plant, the companies' chairmen changed horses in midstream. Mr. Michael Tsour, Chairman of Haifa Refineries on behalf of the Government, took part in the negotiations with the IC, only to switch jobs and emerge as Managing Director of the IC — before the sale was completed. Similarly Mr. Yisrael Gal-Edd, Chairman of Rogozin Textiles on behalf of the Government, joined the purchasing group, and stayed company chairman on their behalf. Although both men dropped out of the negotiations as soon as they changed their status, the State Comptroller finds there is a blemish in procedure.

A number of hotels and other establishments went bankrupt and fell into the hands of their chief creditor, the Government. When selling these properties to new buyers, the authorities tended to offer credit on easy terms. The Desert Inn in Beersheba was sold for IL3.46m., with IL616,000 to be paid in cash, another IL616,000 in within two years, and the rest (IL2.24m.) over 15 years at 8 per cent unlinked. The Apollonia in Herzliya went for IL3.2m., of which IL960,000 was in cash, and the rest over five years at 8 per cent unlinked.

Unpaid debt

The Rakefet Hotel in Safed received a IL700,000 loan in 1961. Ten years later, its unpaid debt reached IL2m. The Treasury reduced it to IL1.5m. (by scrubbing much of the interest). Then one of the partners bought out the others, and offered to settle the debt if it was reduced to IL1,050,000. The Government agreed, since the collateral was not even worth that much. The purchaser paid IL200,000 in cash, and the rest over nine years, at 6 per cent unlinked.

Maskit, a company for developing traditional crafts, was sold for IL1.1m., most of it on credit for five years at 9 per cent unlinked. The Government company concerned with these affairs, Nechasim, bought a shop in the El Al building in Tel Aviv for IL1,010,000 with borrowed money, and rented it to Maskit. Nechasim had taken two loans, costing 9 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. Yet it leased the shop to Maskit for a sum equal to 8 per cent of the investment. The rent did not cover even the interest on its loans, much less the principal.

* * *

THE Accountant-General's department has developed a clearance system, whereby persons who have credit with the Government can in certain cases "sell" it to other persons who have an obligation to the Government. This has developed on an enormous scale, with agents handling the trade on a commission basis, and has in fact become a banking activity. It expands the country's monetary system unnecessarily.

Commission agents are permitted to open a clearing account of their own, and on some occasions overdraw, paying 14 per cent interest. One agent enjoyed credit in that way averaging IL1.1m. during 1971. In the same year, 126,000 clearance deals took place, totalling over IL15,000m. As a by-product of this process, commissions yielded IL22m.

Transfers are sometimes made to firms (suppliers to the Government) who do not want to open a clearing account. They sell their credit for cash (less commission) through an agent, to someone who does possess such an account.

Overdrafts are extended beyond the end of the fiscal year. The debt is simply repaid on March 31, and renewed on April 1. One business firm got a IL3m. "loan" under this procedure for two years. The report comments that the Accountant-General should not be allowed to authorise what amounts to a Government loan, for which there is no budgetary approval.

When a person appeals against his income-tax assessment, collection is postponed, but the revenue authorities are supposed to distrain that part of the tax against which he does not appeal. In practice, the use of computers for this calculation results in a postponement of all the tax collection, including Property Tax on equipment and stocks.

Interest is charged on any delay before an assessment is agreed, but the "fine" is limited to six months only. Many files stay open for much longer. Of those that were being processed on March 31, 1973, no less than 148,000 related to incomes earned at least two years before. They included 80,000 files concerning 1970/71, 42,000 concerning 1969/70, and 26,000 concerning 1968/69 or earlier.

Limit of fine

The State Comptroller recommends abolishing the six-month limit on the fine for delays. Otherwise taxpayers may be encouraged to protract negotiations and postpone deadlines.

A taxpayer may be permitted to defray his arrears with the aid of a bank loan, given on the tax officer's recommendation. Payments made on credit under this arrangement multiplied more than threefold, from IL63.5m. in 1969 to IL220.8m. in 1972. Average size of advances grew from IL10,100 to IL42,400. On occasion, people have been allowed loans to repay loans, in a kind of revolving credit fund.

The State Comptroller asks whether bank loans do not offer too easy a way out for the hard-pressed assessing officer. Continuous use of this accommodation leads to an increase in the volume of credit in the economy. Taxes should in principle be paid out of a man's pocket, the report observes.

Employers who forward tax deductions from wage bills have been treated as a special case. The fiscal authorities explain that many of them had found it hard to cope with the higher wage increases that took place in the years 1970, 1971 and 1972. Bank loans offered a safety valve.

But the State Comptroller disapproves strongly here too, pointing out that tax deductions are "money belonging to the Treasury: the employer serves as an agent in their collection. Fiscal revenue cannot be used as a source of credit."

The situation becomes absurd when bank advances are authorized for defraying the Employers' Loan. It emerges that the employer is getting a linked return, by lending to the State money that he borrowed from the banks, unlinked.

Anybody selling a property has to notify the tax office within seven days, and to make a report on the transaction (for the purposes of the Land Betterment Tax) within 30 days. It was found that tax collectors do not bother about enforcing the 7-day report, because it has proved not to be practical. They recommend abolishing it.

The tax is payable even if the changed ownership is not entered in the Land Registry. People often refrain from making the entry right away, but take instead a power-of-attorney from the seller, entitling them to do it when they please.

In such cases the parties concerned are likely not to pay the tax until the formal registration is made. But the law requires that notaries inform the tax office about all powers-of-attorney that they issue in this connection. The tax office should then take action. In fact, the number of notifications on which no action was taken stood at 12,589 in April 1972, and 16,792 in July 1973.

The law requiring that approved enterprises be exempt from indirect taxes, on materials purchased for their construction and equipment, throws up difficult administrative problems. It is hard to know whether a given volume of imports is all genuinely intended for the needs of the undertaking; and whether all, or at least some, of it may not have been sold in the black market.

Two hotels started clearing goods from port, one in February 1971, the other in December of the same year. Tariff exemptions were granted to the sum of IL650,000 and IL270,000 respectively. In November 1972, the Tel Aviv Customs House made a follow-up check on this whole subject of tax remissions. It emerged that the two hotels had not been constructed at all.

The Gitter Committee, appointed to examine the problem of aid to investments, recommended that the tax exemption be cancelled. Instead, all approved enterprises should get a global refund in cash. It would be 10 per cent of the investment for a hotel (not including the cost of the plot, land development, road vehicles, and working capital), and 7 per cent for industry.

The system was tried on a voluntary basis; but the revenue service found the refund figure to be too high. They advocate reducing it to five per cent for industry. The whole matter is still under study. The State Comptroller urges that whatever arrangements are worked out should be anchored in the law.

DEFENCE FORCES

Faults in release system

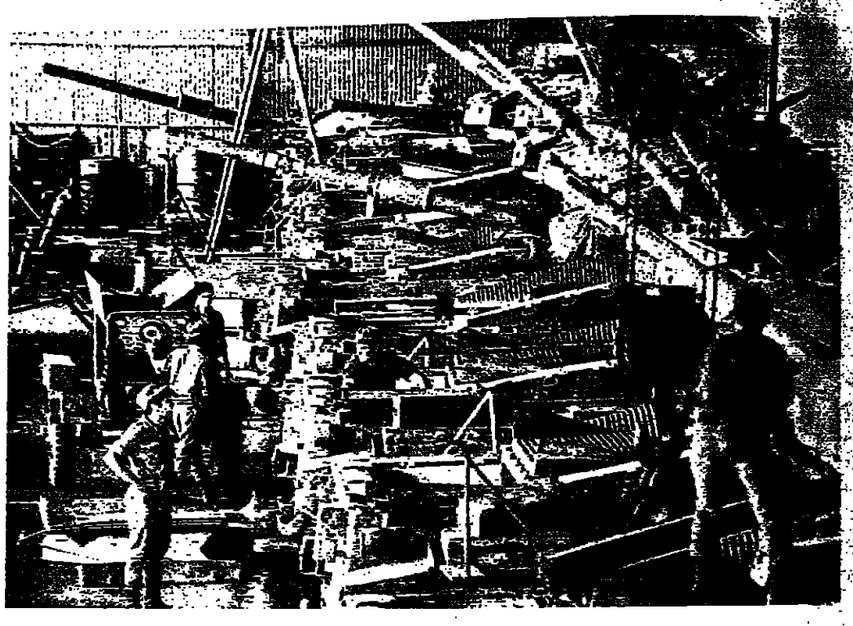
By HIRSH GOODMAN

The State Comptroller's report on the Israel Defence Forces notes several serious shortcomings but is in general favourable. It does not touch on the alleged shortcomings on the eve of the October war.

The Comptroller examined the release process for reservists in the months directly after the war, and the compensation paid families where the husband was doing reserve duty. He inspected a vehicle maintenance camp in the Central Command and a naval base. He delved into the operations of the building unit in the armed forces.

Considerable shortcomings were found in the system of release of reservists. In many cases the army did not carry out the recommendations of the special committee set up to examine applications for release from active service of men needed for their civilian jobs. It was found on January 1, 1974 that 1,041 men recommended for release by December 15, 1973 were still in uniform. Until the end of November 1,750 orders for release had not been complied with by the various units. It was found that in many cases the order to release a man from active service was given without consulting the man's commander, and it is for this reason, the Comptroller feels, that many of the orders were not carried out. The Comptroller also notes the administrative difficulties involved. There were 60,000 requests by employers for the release of personnel, of which a total of 12,000 were granted.

With regard to the maintenance of vehicles, the Comptroller found that in the base scrutinized only 61 per cent of the vehicles in emergency stores which should have been regularly serviced were indeed serviced. The reason for this given by the man in charge of the unit was that as far as he was concerned he was only responsible for the vehicles directly under his control, while vehicles stored at other bases in the command should have been checked by the local commanders. The Comptroller rejected this explanation, noting that it was in direct contradiction to standing orders.



IDF workshops — not all vehicles were checked. (Rubinger)

It was also found that only 44 per cent of vehicles which were taken out of stores for use in manoeuvres were checked when returned, and that at the specific base investigated the regular maintenance of tanks was 15 to 20 per cent behind schedule.

The Comptroller finds no excuse for the delay, noting that the man in charge had adequate manpower at his disposal to ensure that all work was carried out, and concluded that the work crew could have managed more than the prescribed number of vehicles had they been organized efficiently.

When it came to the installation of new engines into vehicles the Comptroller — as the result of a spot check — found that eight engines being replaced in half-tracks and tanks were faulty at the time of installation.

The Comptroller deals at length with the call-up of civilian vehicles for emergency service, and notes that taking into consideration the scope and urgency of the operation on the eve of the October war, it was handled admirably. He complained, however, that in several cases the men in charge of receiving the vehicles — and assessing their value — were reservists who in civilian life worked for the contractor whose vehicles were being called-up. Though the Comptroller did not find any cases where vehicles were actually overassessed, he warned that the practice was not a good one.

With regard to the naval base inspected the Comptroller found that a special 17-man "think-tank" set up by the unit to develop means of warfare completed only two of the 43 assignments it had been given. Of the remainder, 32 projects were in their initial stages, while the rest had been cancelled.

The Comptroller also found that most of the electronic equipment installed on naval vessels carried no maintenance instructions, and that no maintenance record had been kept. Also, in 48 cases equipment handed out to units from stores was not checked before being sent for operational use.

The Defence Forces' building unit handles only relatively small jobs (under IL10,000), major contracts coming from the Ministry of Defence. It was found, however, that the army unit never actually bothered to check the actual value of the work in relation to the cost charged by the contractor and also that no clear instructions existed on how to go about ordering work from contractors and for the supervision of the types of materials being used by the contractor. More serious perhaps is the revelation that the unit, though only entitled to order jobs up to a value of IL10,000, was undertaking work worth much more than this, in one instance ten times as much. The Comptroller found that this was done by splitting one order into several separate jobs — a process he found contrary to the general instructions issued.

DEAR RESIDENT!

We are pleased to bring to the notice of Haifa residents the steps we have taken, as a first stage, to improve the contact between the Municipal Council and the citizen.

OMBUDSMAN (COMPLAINTS COMMISSIONER)

We have just appointed an official to deal with complaints from the public. This makes it possible for citizens to make complaints regarding municipal services. Complaints will be treated seriously.
In view of the importance attached to the post, Mr. Yaacov Levav, until now acting Director General of Haifa University, has been appointed.

Complaints can be made, from May 2, 1974, to:
Mr. Yaacov Levav, Complaints Commissioner,
Haifa Municipality.

MUNICIPAL INFORMATION BUREAUX

Five bureaux will be opened shortly. Their function will be to provide municipal and general information on various subjects to all Haifa residents, visitors to the city, and tourists.
Anyone requiring information on municipal activities can apply to one of the five bureaux.
The central bureau is in City Hall. It will be open to the public 24 hours a day, from May 2; Tel. 645359.
The other four bureaux are located as follows:

- **Central Carmel** — Sderot Hanassi (near the entrance to the Carmelit)
- **Hadar** — 25 Rehov Hanevi'im
- **New Egged Bus Station** — Kiryat Eliezer

The public will be advised of the dates on which these four bureaux will open.

Dear Resident!

Please do not hesitate to approach the Municipality in connection with any complaint of importance to the public, or any suggestion.

All applications will be looked into thoroughly.

Sincerely,
(—) (signed)
YOSEPH ALMOGI

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

INTERIOR MINISTRY

How to streamline vote counting

By SARAH HONIG

The State Comptroller's report on the Ministry of the Interior is chiefly devoted to the conduct of the recent elections.

The Comptroller points to many shortcomings and makes a good many recommendations for reforms, as in his view the most suitable time for changes is not just before the polling day, but soon after it when proposals can be weighed according to their merit and not in the heat of the new campaign."

The Comptroller recommends that polling be shortened and that the deadline for casting a ballot be moved forward. As he sees it, this will mean no hardship for the voters as statistics show that most people vote before the early evening hours. The change would allow the processing of the ballots to be done at more comfortable hours, "thereby preventing shortcomings and mistakes in processing the results."

Such shortcomings are noted in regional elections committees. The Jerusalem committee reportedly worked under too much pressure and in too much confusion. In Tel Aviv ballots were moved by messengers with no supervision.

The Comptroller also does not see why there must be so many polling stations. They are so close together that it would not inconvenience voters if some of the stations were merged. The result would be considerable financial saving and reduced manpower needs on elections day. A serious breach of regulations pointed out by the Comptroller was that in a number of localities the ballot boxes for local and Knesset elections were situated in the same booth.

Most of the Comptroller's criticisms were, however, aimed at the polling station committee members. All too often the men selected to serve on the committees are not qualified to handle the frequently complex administrative tasks involved and to strictly meet the stipulations of the law. Often there are simply too many committee members, resulting in hitches and errors. Mistakes appeared in 600 of the 3,930 committee protocols.

To make matters worse, committee members often fail to show up for briefing sessions designed to acquaint them with their elections day duties. Thus it is reported that no more than 50 per cent of the committee chairmen and their deputies took part in these sessions. "The result is that the people who functioned as committee heads received no training and were not properly familiar with the regulations connected with their tasks. This was another contributing factor to shortcomings in committee operations," the Comptroller writes.

According to the report, 50 per cent of the stations opened with some delay. In 25 per cent of the cases, stations opened half-an-hour late, in 20 per cent the delay lasted between 30 minutes to a full hour and in five per cent of the stations, the delay was longer than an hour. The chief cause for the delays, according to the Comptroller, was the failure of committee members, including chairmen, to show up on time. In some stations some committee members only showed up several hours after the stations were opened.

Committee members under the existing system are volunteers chosen by the various parties. The Comptroller would like to see the whole system changed. He recommends that the selection of polling station committees be removed from the domain of the political parties and relegated to the Government. The best committee members, to his mind, would be civil servants, local authority employees and teachers. This would mean that the committee members would be bound by some discipline and their qualifications would be easier to ascertain. There is no reason, the Comptroller says, why the parties would then not be able to send observers to the stations to see that matters are handled to their satisfaction.

The Comptroller also takes the Interior Ministry to task for lax supervision of construction. He says "the district building commissions have yet to use all the legal means at their disposal to prevent illegal construction."

His report cites many cases in which although the delinquent builder had been brought to trial and fined, he was later granted a retroactive permit for his illegal construction. The Comptroller suggests the law be amended to make such retroactive permits for violations impossible.

Lining up to vote — why so many stations?

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY

Quick to bill, slow to refund

By AARON SITTNER

The Communications Ministry loses no time in billing telephone subscribers for service, but takes its time to make refunds, the State Comptroller noted.

The Comptroller says the Ombudsman's Office has received scores of complaints from the public regarding the Ministry's foot-dragging when it comes to returning money. Refunds are due for such reasons as duplicate payment of telephone bills, overpayment for the fixed or actual message unit charges, and pre-payment for charges and fees subsequently cancelled.

Duplicate payment of telephone bills is not a rare occurrence, many persons paying first upon receipt of the original bill and again when they receive a reminder in the mail. Every questionable payment is immediately spotted by the computer, and a printout of all doubtful remittances is sent to the three regional telephone accounts offices, in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

In 1972 the regional offices were told that the computer reporting system was not perfect; hence, they may refund the over-payments only if a subscriber applied for such a refund, and produced the two paid bills.

At the end of 1972, following examination by the Ministry's Finance and Account Department, the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem regional offices were told they may once again begin to make direct payments to customers who had paid their bills more than once, even if they did not apply for such payments.

The Haifa office was not checked, so telephone users in that area must still make it their business to guard against overpayment. Subscribers who apply for a refund should bring their two paid bills.

Money back

Regardless of the way a customer gets his money back, the Comptroller says, there is unnecessary delay in getting it. For example, in November 1972 the Ministry was holding on to approximately IL1.2m. in overpayments that had accumulated since April, 1971. When the State Comptroller made another check — this one in March 1973 — he found another backlog of IL1.3m. The greater part of this money is the result of customers having paid the same telephone bill twice.

The State Comptroller recommends that credit payments to telephone subscribers should be made by the computer: by setting off the credit against the next debit and, if a credit still exists, by automatically printing a refund check.

The Comptroller also notes that refunds sometime cannot be made at all because the potential recipient cannot be located. In such cases, says the Comptroller the Ministry should not merely sit on these funds, but transfer them to where they rightfully belong: the State Revenue Administration.

Fixed fee

Another practice that irks the State Comptroller — and which he noted in his previous Annual Report — is the Ministry's habit of charging a customer the fixed fee for the period during which he has no telephone at his disposal. This occurs when a subscriber moves and must sometimes wait for a long period of time before the phone is installed in his new location.

In December, 1972, the Ministry issued an order to its Finance and Accounts Department to stop this practice. But it has continued. The State Comptroller reports the Ministry issued a similar order last December (1973), and it is hoped telephone subscribers will no longer be charged for use of a phone they don't have.

Sometimes a telephone subscriber makes an advance payment, such as before an extended trip abroad. At the end of the period for which he has prepaid, an accounting is made. If there is a credit due to the subscriber, the proper refund should be made. The State Comptroller checked these records recently and found scores of cases where the Ministry did not bother to make the refunds.

Some of these pre-payments were made as far back as 1968, and the sums involved range from IL10 or IL20 to more than IL1,000. Yet, the money was still being held by the Ministry.

There are times when a customer applies for a temporary telephone connection, such as for a convention or congress in an auditorium or meeting hall. A deposit must be paid for such an installation and, according to Ministry regulations, the telephone must be removed within a specified period of time, not exceeding six months. The Comptroller found that such "temporary" phones were often allowed to remain at the sites for more than six months, and the Ministry failed to refund the deposits.

Unrecalled calls

Some telephone subscribers cannot recall making as many calls as appear on their bills. Several years ago the Ministry issued the following guidlines: if the bill in question indicates a substantial deviation from previous bills, the customer should be allowed a credit adjustment. If the complaint of excessive billing recurs, the matter is handed over to the Telephone Engineering Service. The Service attaches a special metering instrument to the user's phone line, to check for possible errors in recording the calls made by that number.

According to the Ministry's own regulations, all "first time" complaints must be taken care of within two weeks and all "recurring" complaints within two months.

The State Comptroller found that in the Jerusalem and Haifa regional offices it was often impossible to differentiate between "first-time" and "recurring" complaints. The workers would refer all complaints of overbilling to the Engineering Service — a move that over-burdened the service.

The State Comptroller looked into the handling of these complaints. He found that Communications Ministry workers just did not observe the time limit for settling customers' complaints of over-billing. This was especially true in the "recurring" type of complaint, where instead of taking two months to handle a complaint, it took up to 10 months.

In addition, the Haifa Regional Office showed no uniformity in settling complaints. One complaint of over-billing would be settled by crediting the customer. Another complaint — almost identical in nature — would be rejected outright.

No pole

Indeed the "fixed" fee for telephone installation is not always fixed. This happens when a request for a telephone comes from a person living in an area where there is no telephone pole nearby. Here, the subscriber must contribute to the cost of buying a police. However, if within the next five years, that pole is used in conjunction with installation of additional subscribers' phones, than the first two new subscribers — following the original one — are billed a certain amount towards the original purchase price of the pole. Subsequently, the first subscriber is supposed to receive a refund.

As far back as 1965 the Ministry established an inter-departmental reporting service under which the Engineering Service would keep the accounting offices informed of all developments concerning such special installations, so that proper refunds would be made as soon as additional subscribers' lines were added to a telephone pole. Though eight years have passed, there is no such efficient reporting. As a result, the only telephone subscribers who have received refunds have been those who have kept their eyes on their telephone pole, and have come to the regional office to complain.

With "many hundreds" of queries and complaints reaching the Ministry every month regarding billing and non-payment of refunds, the State Comptroller suggests the Ministry of Communications pay more attention to this matter.

HEALTH MINISTRY

MENTAL HOMES POORLY MANAGED

MACABEE DEAN

medical administration of the vernment's mental homes — ling to a sample survey taken e Comptroller — is not only d and inefficient, but often es the patients of their elemen- legal rights. However, there is cation in the report that this ue to anything more than management.

h more serious seems to be the at medical records were often plete — with treament not re- d in the case histories or rea- r no treatment.

Comptroller notes that some- two whole years passed be- entry was made in the pa- medical history. In other those sending the patient to tal home stated he was go- voluntarily"; yet the mental on receiving his same pa- noted that he was brought his will. Patients were also rred from one hospital to an- without legal authorization; s were also discharged on the mendation of one doctor, and the head of the institution ed as required by law.

rvey of 120 of 200 files of committed to a mental home by the courts showed that from January, 1972 to April, 1973, 17 of the 120 were released without proper authorization and without specification of the purpose of these illegal releases.

Others were given "vacations" lasting not only months but even "years," and the mental home did nothing to change the legal status of these sick persons to that of a well person. This is important particularly in those cases where a person commits a crime, and does not have to stand trial since he is thought to be mentally incapable of understanding the gravity of his criminal actions although he was well enough to be released for "years."

The authorities, specifically the district psychiatrist, should state specifically and clearly why each patient was committed; yet the district psychiatrist did this only if "force" was used against the patient to bring him to the mental home, the Comptroller reported.

Moreover, under the law, the Attorney General must be informed of such involuntary hospitalizations in order to safeguard the individual's rights. This information must be passed to the Ministry of Justice within five days of hospitalization. Yet, in 31 out of 34 cases, this information was passed on only after six days, and in some cases up to 34 days.

To prevent the indiscriminate use of force against patients, entries must be made in red ink in a ledger when such force is used. Not only was this not done, but often there was not even any entry of the name of the doctor who ordered the use of force — straight jacket, solitary confinement, etc.

Worse than this, every patient undergoing "shock treatment," either by electricity or by insulin, must give his consent voluntarily, or the consent must be obtained from those legally responsible for him. Of the 22 such treatments given from July, 1972 to February, 1973, three were administered without proper consent. In most other cases, the medical records were in disorder.

Negligence was also found in another section of the Ministry of Health, that dealing with the issue of physicians' licences. Translations of foreign documents were often not found; and when found they were often inaccurate. Moreover, the law specifically states that a physician cannot receive a licence unless he is a man of "good character."

The Ministry contended that if nobody came forward to prove otherwise, it was assumed that each applicant was of "good character," while the State Comptroller states that the "good character" of each applicant should be verified by positive evidence, and not by the lack of complaints. Moreover, there were lengthy delays in publishing the lists of licences issued in *Reshumot* — so much so that many temporary licences had expired before publication.

And what happens if a member of the public complains about an alleged violation of medical ethics by a physician? Nothing much.

There are four degrees of punishment: warning, reprimand, temporary suspension of medical licence, and complete revocation of the licence. The Ministry had never drawn up the framework to implement properly the first two categories (warning and reprimand), and it did not wish to use the second two unless the case was of the utmost severity. Therefore, little was done to see that doctors who violated their code of ethics were brought to task. Moreover, the records of such complaints against the doctors were kept in a most negligent manner.

BANK OF ISRAEL

Inefficient calculations

IN the chapter on the Bank of Israel the Comptroller has some harsh words to say about the inefficient and lengthy method of calculating the commercial banks' liquidity ratios, i.e. the amounts of deposits which they must keep with the central bank, and consequently the volume of interest to which they are entitled or which they must pay in case of a liquidity deficit.

For the eight months ending August 1973 the banks had to pay IL23.5m. of interest on their liquidity deficits, compared to IL2m. during the whole of 1972. Obviously, the banks are happy with delays in charging them with these payments. However, these charges cannot be specified as long as the amounts due to them from the central bank are not calculated. The Comptroller suggests some simplifications and improvements in the current system. He also discloses that for a number of banks — originally eight, currently still two — special provisions were made concerning their liquidity ratios, giving them a period of several years to reduce their liquidity deficit to the prescribed level.

D ADV

HOUSING MINISTRY

Mobile homes faulty

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

The Housing Ministry ordered 600 mobile homes from abroad in January, 1973, to serve as temporary dwellings for immigrants in absorption centres. Structural damage, wrought by the climate, caused the ministry to cancel plans to order 200 more.

The 600 homes were ordered from two British firms after Housing Ministry officials visited producers in six European countries. The homes arrived in Israel by mid-July but 30 per cent were damaged mostly in transit from the port here, and required repairs. It was found that homes with dark exteriors had higher inside temperatures than those of a light colour. An attempt to paint a dark home white did not produce satisfactory results. Shortly after their arrival, it was found that the homes produced by one of the firms had developed deformities in the exterior aluminum because of the climate.

The homes, which cannot be moved from place to place, contain 25 sq.m. of space and cost IL26,000 including the cost of setting them up on permanent sites. By the end of November, more than half the homes were still unoccupied.

Another type of living quarters imported from abroad were 300 prefabricated wooden homes imported from Yugoslavia last year. The prefabs with 66 sq.m. of floor space cost IL60,000, including infrastructure. The Yugoslav structure was chosen from among 12 international bids, even though six others were cheaper. The ministry selected it because of its quality and because the Yugoslav manufacturers agreed to send its personnel to erect the structures in Israel. By the end of November most of them were occupied.

The Comptroller notes that the Housing Ministry has done much to improve living conditions in rural settlements set up since the creation of the State. However, significant defects in its improvement programme were cited. Although easy term loans were to be supplied to all rural households seeking to expand living space to a total of 58 sq.m. the Comptroller found instances where assistance was rendered for expansion of quarters to 150 sq.m.

RESEARCH COUNCIL

Progress delayed by lack of law

The Katzir Committee on the Organization of Government Research recommended in 1969 the enactment of a special law to give independent status to the National Council for Research and Development and the various government research institutes. But this law is still awaited, and its absence, despite the larger funds now allotted to research and the establishment of additional research institutes, is delaying vital progress, the State Comptroller said.

The National Council only allocated half of its budgets for research grants in 1971 and 1972, ending 1971 with an unspent surplus of IL4.28m. and 1972 with IL5.56m.

The Comptroller complains that the plenum of the National Council — instead of being composed of independent personalities — mainly includes representatives of institutions. The Civil Service Commission also prevented the National Council from exercising even a limited independence as regards manpower, budgets and staff generally, on the excuse that it was not a large enough unit.

ABSORPTION

No information on mortgages

The terms under which mortgages were supplied to new immigrants were changed several times in recent years without these changes being included in the information booklet distributed to immigrants outlining their rights. In the summer of 1971, it was decided to put a ceiling of IL175,000 on the price of an apartment for which the Absorption Ministry would provide mortgage assistance. In January, 1973, it was decided to raise the amount of a mortgage in Jerusalem from IL50,000 to IL60,000 and elsewhere from IL40,000 to IL50,000 (These figures were subsequently raised again to IL80,000 and IL 70,000 respectively.)

In three cases in which applications for mortgages were rejected because of the rule regarding a ceiling of IL175,000 the immigrants appealed to the Ministry's Appeals Committee on the grounds that the ceiling is not mentioned in the booklet supplied them by the Ministry. Their appeals were upheld. (The Ministry says a new booklet is to be published soon.)

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

TV FACILITIES NOT FULLY USED

By JUDY SIEGEL

In his report on the Broadcasting Authority, the Comptroller reported that some of television's facilities are not being utilized to capacity. A studio in Television House, costing IL350,000 and set aside for the news department, has not been used for two years. A IL60,000 machine for the production of plastic accessories for the graphics department has never been removed from its crate, and is beginning to rust from disuse. The Authority told the Comptroller that it will soon sell the machine, as well as a set of unused electronic cameras and sound recorders.

It has also been difficult to keep track of equipment, the Controller noted, because supplies are taken from the radio equipment warehouse in Jerusalem without the knowledge of the warehouse manager.

The State Comptroller commended the Broadcasting Authority for bringing news to the public via radio and television and diverting and entertaining both young and old during the critical period of the Yom Kippur War. He faulted the Authority, however, for a lack of emergency planning.

The Broadcasting Authority's emergency procedures were studied in November and December 1973. Up to the outbreak of the war, it was found that there were no firm plans regarding special programming during emergencies — either on number of broadcast hours or with regard to the production of the material. All had to be arranged at the last minute.

The emergency linkage unit was found severely undermanned — 120 out of 577 positions were vacant when the study took place. In January 1974, the Manpower Division began deliberations on filling the vacancies.

There was also a shortage of materials. Israel Radio's news department needed 590 recording tapes in the month of October 1973, and only 160 were in stock. The remainder, as well as batteries and cassettes, had to be hastily purchased.

Israel Radio's First and Second Programmes were combined when the war broke out, broadcasting 24-hours-a-day. The Third Programme consisted of foreign language broadcasts, with Arabic broadcast on the Fourth. Two mobile television units were set up in the eventuality of an attack on the regular installations.

Upon consultation with the Authority's Director-General, the television chief decided to increase the number of broadcasting hours per week from 36 to 41.5, and this continued for five weeks after Yom Kippur. The increased hours of television broadcasting were filled with foreign programmes.

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PURCHASE SALE

BARELY USED Imperial 660 electric typewriter for sale, excellent for office use. New American mattress for baby-crib. Contact Wayne, 8:30-12:30, tel. 02-528181

EXCELLENT BUY! New portable typewriter, Smith Corona. Tel. 02-527986.

HAGIL LTD. exclusive importers, indoor/outdoor carpeting, synthetic lawn turf, vinyl asbestos floor tiles. Tax free available. Tel Aviv, 241 Dizengoff. Tel. 03-242435.

CARPET for sale Persian Kashan, 3x4 12 sq.m. agents welcome (no merchants). Tel. 03-614621.

AMOS BUYS furniture, antiques, refrigerators, televisions, inheritances and liquidations. 03-867494.

SCHAUB LORENZ television, as new. Passport. Call 03-738422 or 03-787764.

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TV RENTAL, Haifa. Radio Rieber, Herzl 25, Tel. 04-641562.

VEHICLES

AUTO RENTAL — easy terms! "Alonim" 39 Carlebach, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-286739.

FOR SALE, Mini Minor 1972, passport to passport. Tel. 03-412734.

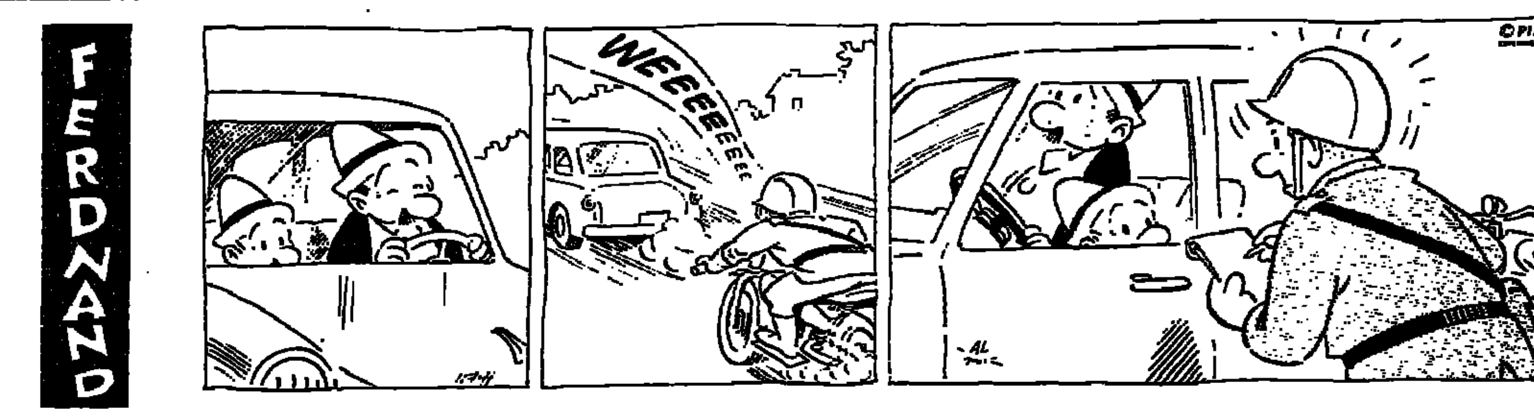
SALE SUBARU 1400 DL, passport. 03-930795.

PASSPORT TO PASSPORT, "Chrysler-160" automatic 1974. 063-26943. 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

SALE PASSPORT or direct, Volvo Station 145, 1973. Opel GT, 1900, 1972. 03-412940.

URGENT. For sale, Volkswagen Minibus Deluxe new, passport to passport. Holon, 81/4 Hankin.

1973 PEUGEOT 504 automatic, air conditioning, immaculate, 18,000 km. Passport sale. Cheap. Call 03-736422 or 03-757764.



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Free tours for planters to the Hills of Judea. leave every Monday and Wednesday from Jerusalem and every Tuesday from Tel Aviv. For details and registration please call Visitors Department. Keren Kayemet Le-Israel (Jewish National Fund). in Jerusalem, Keren Kayemet, Tel. 35261; in Tel Aviv, 96 Rehov Hayarkon, opp. Dan Hotel. Tel. 234440.

Motoring? Get the best! Carta's Israel Road Guide — at your hotel or book-store.

ALL WEEK IN JERUSALEM

A Stone in David's Tower. Sound and Light Show in Jerusalem. Every Evening, except Friday. 7.30 p.m. in Hebrew: 8.45 p.m. in English. Additional show at 10 p.m. — Mon. Tues., Wed., Sat. in English. Sun., Thurs. in French. Tickets: Jerusalem agencies and Citadel box office (evenings). Please come warmly dressed.

JERUSALEM

Hadassah Tours.

1. Medical Centre at 9.30 a.m., 11 a.m., 12.15 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. Last tour on Friday at 12.15 p.m. Kennedy Building. No charge. Buses 19 and 27.

2. Morning half-day tour of all Hadassah projects. IL8.40 ($2 per person towards transportation and refreshments). By reservatgon only: Tel. 416333.

Hebrew University, conducted tours in English, weekdays at 9 and 11 a.m. starting from the lobby of the Administration Building at the Givat Ram Campus. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus at 11.30 a.m. from the lobby of the Truman Building. For further details call Public Relations Dept. tel. 30211 ext. 725.

Jerusalem Biblical Zoo, Schneller Wood. Romema. Tel. 533822, 7.30 a.m. to dusk.

New Israeli Films: Latest Israeli Films screened weekdays at 12 noon at Keren Hayesod Hall. Jewish Agency Building, Jerusalem. Admission free.

THE KHAN THEATRE, opposite railway station. Folklore Evening of Sond and Dance. with Inbal. Every Wednesday at 9 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Tel Aviv Museum, 27 Sderot Shaul Hamelech. Exhibitions Moshe Castel — Retrospective Exhibition — 150 works representing 45 creative years. Periods: "Miniatures," Paris landscapes, synagogues. Sephardic holy-days. calligraphy and Basalt. The works were gathered from private collections and museums in Israel, Europe and the USA. (Zacks Hall). Graphic Halls — Lovis Corinth: 120 drawings, etchings, lithographs. woodcuts. Eric Brum — Posters from Finland; the Museum collections.

Meyerhoff Hall — Israeli Art: Jagiom Hall — Impressionism. Hall No.3 — Surrealism. Post-Cubism: Haft Hall — Kenetic Art.

Helena Rubinstein Pavilion —Tues. April 30 at 6:30 — opening — URI LIFSHITZ. Paintings. drawings, etchings.

Sun., Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tues. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 4 p.m.-10 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Sat. 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

The Helena Rubinstein Art Library (New Building) open: Sun. Mon. Wed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Ha'aretz Museum, Tel Aviv Museum Centre, Ramat Aviv. (1) Glass Museum; (2) Kadmon Numismatic Museum; (3) Ceramics Museum; (4) Nuseum of Science and Technology; (5) Museum of Ethnography and Folklore; (6) Alphabet Museum; (7) Nechushtan Pavilion; (8) Tel-Qasile Excavations; Open: Sun, Mon, Tues., Wed. Thurs. 9 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Fri. 9.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m. Sat. 10.00 a.m.-2.00 p.m.

Special exhibition.

Glass Museum, Ramat Aviv. Glass from Scandinavia.

Museum of Antiquities of Tel Aviv-Yafo 10 Rehov Mifraz Shlomo. Open as above.

Museum of the History of Tel Aviv-Yafo, 27 Rehov Bialik. Open as above but closed Saturday.

• Tel Aviv University:

Free conducted tours in English of Ramat Aviv Campus daily (except Saturday). Assembly point at U Iversity 10.30 a.m. Public Relations Dept., Transportation — on Mondays and Wednesdays — from hotels: 9.40 a.m. Tadmor, Sharon, Accadia, Validor, Samuel, Astor, Dan, Park, Deborah, Adiv, 10 a.m. Sheraton, Hilton Ramat Aviv, Ami Shalom, Basel. For further details. Tel. 416111. Public Relatons Dept.

Tel Aviv Hilton, The only exclusive duty-free jewellery in Israel with a worldwide guarantee. H. Stern, Jewellers.

Mizrahi Women's Organization of America and Canada 16, 18, Rehov Dov Hos, Tel Aviv., call Tel. 220187, 243106; Jerusalem 222846, 521608; Haifa, 64528; Beersheba, 3171.

National Religious Women's Organization; Mizrahi and Hapoel Hamizrahi Women in Israel, 166 Rehov Ibn Gvirol, Tel Aviv; Call Tel. 788942, 440316; Jerusalem, Tel. 30620, 35282 Mondays/Wednesdays guided tours through Neve Sara Herzog Complex, Bnei Brak.

Women's Leagues for Israel. 37 King George. Tel Aviv. Conducted tours of the Homes. Please call: Tel Aviv — 249159, Jerusalem —39840, Haifa — 666177, Netanya —23564.

Moetzet Hapoalot — Pioneer Women. Courtesy tours Sunday through Thursday 2 p.m., Tel Aviv Histadrut Bldg. 53 Rehov Arlosorov, Tel. 261111, Jerusalem, Beit Elisheva, Rehov Elazar Hamodai, Katamon, Tel. 31316, Haifa Community Centre: Rehov Zahal, Kiryat Eliezar, Tel. 322554. Phone for Reservations.

Wizo Tourist Club, 116 Rehov Hayarkon. Tel. 239939, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

• Canadian Hadassah-Wizo Office, 116 Hayarkon, Tel. 227060 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Israel Wax Museum depicting the "Rebirth of Israel," Shalom Mayer Tower, Tel Aviv, Tel. 57304.

HAIFA

Hadassah Club, 30 Rehov Hayarkon, Tel. 56039.

HADASSAH Club, Youth Aliya office, 209 Rehov Hameginim, Tel. 642461, 664876.

The Golden Age Club on Mount Carmel, Rothschild Community Centre. Today 4.15 p.m. Hans Landsberger, Haifa: "On people and Landscapes." Guests will be welcome.

REHOVOT

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Conducted tours, Sun. to Thurs. at 2.30 p.m. Fri at 10.30 a.m. starting from the lobby of the Charles Clore International House.

CINEMAS

JERUSALEM
4.00, 7.00, 9.00

ARNON — Bananas; CHEN — Haham Gamliel; EDEN — Live and Let Die; EDISON — The Young Witness; HABIRAH — Four Dimensions of Greta; ORGIL — Il n'y a pas de Fumee sans feu; ORNA — Blum in Love; JERUSALEM — Summer Place; ORION — Rabbi Jacob; SEMADAR — The Fearless Vampire Killers.

HAIFA
4.00, 6.45, 9.00

AMPHITHEATRE — Deaf Smith and Johnny Ears; ARMON — Man of the East; ATZMON — Rabbi Jacob; BEIT ROTHSCHILD — Mon. Traffic with Jack Tati; Sun. Mother Joan of The Angels; Thurs. Les Enfants du Paradis CHEN — Pete N' Tillie; MIRON — Love is Tender and Violent; MORIAH — Ship of Fools; ORDAN — Take the Money and Run. ORAH — The Way We Were. ORION — The Big Risk; ORLY — Day of the Jackal; PEER — Play It Again Sam; RON — A Touch of Class; SHAVIT — Malizia.

TEL AVIV
4.30, 7.15, 9.30

ALLENBY — Bolt; BEN YEHUDA — Take Me High; CINEMA ONE — Mc Q; CINERAMA — Carnal Violence; CHEN — The Don is Dead; DEKEL — 40 Carats — EDEN — Kinari, Kinari; MAXIM — Sister; ESTHER — Magnum Force; GAT — Avanti; DRIVE-IN CINEMA — Robinson Crusoe, The Contract. The Sicilians, GORDON— But Where is Daniel Vax; HOD — Les Intrus; LIMOR — Don Juan 73; MOGRABI — The Way We Were; OPHIR — Live and Let Die; ORDAN — La Nuit Americane; ORLY — The Lustful Vicar; PARIS — Le Distrait; PEER — A Touch of Class; RAMAT AVIV — The Thief Who Came to Dinner; STUDIO — Haham Gamliel; TCHELET — Harold & Maude; TEL AVIV — Rabbi Jacob; ZAFON — Il N'y a pas de fumee sans feu.

RAMAT GAN
7.15, 9.30

ARMON — Pete N' Tillie; HADAR — Haham Gamliel; LILI — Till Divorce Do Us Part; ORDEA — The Oasis of Fear; OASIS — Wedding Night; RAMA — Magnum Force; RAMAT GAN — Rabbi Jacob.

HERZLIYA

DAVID — Travels with my Aunt.

PETAH TIKVA

SHALOM — Haham Gamliel.

TUESDAY

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Tager, 33 K.K.L. 39893; Siam, Outside Damascus Gate, 284512.

TEL AVIV: Hanevi'im, 72 King George, 286740; Trufa, 217 Dizengoff, 223488; Yani, 67 Yehuda Halevi, 612474. HOLON: Assuta, 4 Trumpeldor. BAT YAM: Balfour, 90 Balfour. GIVATAYIM: Hadassah, 151 Katznelson, 722271. BNEI BRAK: Shapira, 30 Rabbi Akiva. KFAR SHMARYAHU: Kfar Shmaryahu, Merkaz Mishari. LOD: Lod, 23 Herzl. PETAH TIKVA: Hayarkon, 24 Stampfer, 910946. NETANYA: Hadassah, 24 Herzl, 22243.

HAIFA: Balfour, 1 Massada, 662289.

BEERSHEBA: Assuta.

EMERGENCY HOSPITALS IN JERUSALEM

Shaare Zedek (pediatrics, surgery, eyes).Bikur Holim (obstetrics, internal).

For emergency first aid, dial 101, Magen David Adom.

"ERAN" — Mental Health First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 69911.

WEDNESDAY

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Abramowitz, 21 King George, 224972; Habash, El-Wad, Old City, 284285.

TEL AVIV: Grinberg, 48 King George, 226208; Nordau, 183 Ben Yehuda, 242673. HOLON: Dror, 80 Hahistadrut. BAT YAM: Hoffmann, 4 Daniel. RAMAT GAN: Talpiot, 30 Abba Hillel, 723554. BNEI BRAK: Bnei Brak, 110 Rabbi Akiva. KFAR SABA: Kineret, 119 Weizmann. LOD: Lod, 23 Herzl. NETANYA: Geva, Shaar Hagai, 22835.

BEERSHEBA: Assuta.

EMERGENCY HOSPITALS IN JERUSALEM

Bikur Holim (pediatrics). Hadassah (internal, obstetrics, surgery, eyes).

For emergency first aid, dial 101, Magen David Adom.

"ERAN" — Mental Health First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 69911.

ON THE AIR

HEBREW NEWS AND NEWSREELS

1st Programme: News: Every hour on the hour, except 1 a.m. Newsreels: 7.05 a.m. and 7.05 p.m.
2nd Programme: News: Every hour on the hour, except 7 and 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. Newsreels: 7.05 a.m. 1.05 p.m. and 11.05 p.m.
Galei Zahal: News: Every hour on the hour. Newsreels. 8.05 a.m. 12.05 and 5.05 p.m. and 12.05 a.m.

FIRST PROGRAMME
256, 522 and 221 M.

7.58 a.m. Opening. 8.05 "Morning Concert" — Smetana: Trio; Verdi: String Quartet; Sviatislav: Richter. 9.55 English News. 10.05 "Baroque and Modern."
10.55 French News. 11.00 News in easy Hebrew.11.05 Ivrit La'am. 11.15 Programmes for Elementary Schools. 11.35 Song and Melody. 12.15 Programmes for Eelementary Schools.
12.35 "Choirs."
1.05 "Midday Concert."
2.05 Mother and Child. 3.05 "Radiodea" — "Bettering Your Knowledge." 3.30 Talmud lesson. 4.05 "Tunes for Teens."
5.55 "Classical Request Programme" — Hayden: Quartet op. 77, 1; Schumann: "Carnaval."
5.55 p.m. English News. 6.05 "People and Figures." 6.25 For Farmers. 6.50 French News. 6.55 For the Farmer. 7.05 "Today." 7.25 Light Music. 7.50 Bible Reading: Tehillim, chaps 7 and 8. 8.05 Reminiscences of Eretz Yisrael.
8.15 "Towards the Concert" — produced by Uri Epstein. 8.30 The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra (direct relay in Stereo from the Jerusalem Theatre). Conductor — Shmuel Friedman. Andor Foldes, piano — "Popular Classics" — Beethoven: Concerto No. 5; Shostakovich: Symphony No. 1; Tshaikovsky: "Romeo and Juliet."
11.02 "Public Trial." 12.05 A Moment of poetry. 12.08 Close Down. 2.05-5.00 Hebrew songs and tunes. 5.05-8.00 Same as second programme.

SECOND PROGRAMME
457, 423, 256, 249, 355 and 340.5 M.

5.05 Hebrew Songs and Tunes. 5.55 Religious Service. 6.10 Exercises. 6.20 Musical Clock. 6.55 Programme Announcements. 6.59 A Moment of Hebrew. 7.05 "This Morning." 7.25 Hebrew songs. 7.55 "Green Light." 8.05 Announcements. 8.10 "Good Morning." 8.55 Names and Events in the Headlines. 9.05 "Good Morning (cont.). 10.05 "Here at Home." 11.50 Where to go and light music. 12.05 Programme for the Worker and the Employer. 12.30 Hebrew Songs.
1.05 p.m. "At Midday" 2.10 "From Pop to Inclusive" — ed. by Rivka Michaeli. 3.05 Requests. 3.53 Encore — ed. by S. Rosen. 4.05 A Moment of Hebrew 4.06 "Passport to Song." 4.30 S. Rosen's Quiz. 4.35 "Passport to Song (cont.)" 5.05 Selected songs from the Hit Parades. 6.05 Oriental songs. 6.45 Today's sport. 6.55 Announcements. 9.05 "Meaning for Songs" 10.05 "Public opinion." 11.02 "Tonight." 11.15 Jazz. 12.05-3.00 Songs and Tunes.

ISRAEL TELEVISION SERVICE

5.30 News. 5.32 Service Broadcast. 5.42 Science Series. 6.10 A short film with Charlie Chaplin. 6.20 My Friends All over the World — 8.00 Morasha. 8.30 Mabat. 9.09 "Columbo." 10.15 Moked. 11.05 News. 11.010 Service Broadcast. Educational: 8.15 Advice and Guidance 8. 9.05 Maths. 7. 10.00 English 9. 10.20 English 8. 10.45 For Kindergarteners. 11.25 English 7. 12.00 English 10. 12.20 English 8. 1.00 Technology. 1.20 Citizenship 7. 4.00 Story. 4.20 Film. 5.11 Lea Goldberg's Songs.
Arabic: 6.30 News. 6.32 "Songs we Chose for You." 7.00 Family magazine. 7.30 News.

FIFTH PROGRAMME
445 M.

6.58 p.m. Opening 7.00 News. 7.25 Song and Melody. 8.00 News 8.05 Song and Melody.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR

7.00 p.m. News in easy Hebrew, Ivrit La'am. 7.15 Georgian. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Ladino. 8.15 Mograbi. 8.30 Rumanian. 8.45 Russian. 9.00 Close Down.

ENGLISH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.00 a.m. (4th programme and short waves);
9.55 a.m. (1st programme);
1.30-2.00 p.m. (4th programme and short waves);
5.55 p.m. (1st programme);
8.30-8.45 p.m. (4th programme);
10.00-10.45 p.m. (short waves).

FRENCH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.15 a.m. (4th programme and short waves);
1.55 a.m. (1st programme);
10.55 a.m. (1st programme);
6.50 p.m. (1st programme);
8.45-9.00 p.m. (4th programme);
12.00-1.00 a.m. (short waves).
1st Programme — 256, 522 and 221 M.
4th Programme — 407, 445 and 292 M.
3rd Programme (short waves) — 16, 19, 25, 31, 33, 41 and 49 M.

GALEI ZAHAL

5.58 Morning Prayer. 6.05 Morning Tunes. 7.55 Programme trailer 8.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 8.30 Morning tunes (cont.) 9.05 Requests. 9.55 "There are problems." 10.05 Requests 10.55 With Uri Sela. 11.05 Warm and Tasty. 11.55 Tamar Marok suggests. 12.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 12.30 Warm and Tasty. 1.30 "It Reminds Me" with Hanna Zemer. 1.35 Warm and Tasty.
1.55 p.m. Announcements. 2.05 Two till Four" — with Gila Almagor. 2.30 Quiz. 2.57 Programme Trailer. 3.05 "Two till Four" cont.). 4.05 Please Call. 5.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 5.40 Tunes for Everybody. 5.55 Programme Trailer. 6.05 "Seven Days in April." 7.05 "From Her to You" — with Edna Peer 8.05 New Song Corner. 8.30 By Request. 10.05 Let's Talk — with Nathan Donewitz. 11.55 "Midnight Talk." 12.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 12.30 "Night Birds. 3.05 Tunes in the night.

WEDNESDAY

HEBREW NEWS AND NEWSREELS

1st Programme: News: Every hour on the hour, except 1 a.m. Newsreels: 7.05 a.m. and 7.05 p.m.
2nd Programme: News: Every hour on the hour, except 7 and 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. Newsreels: 7.05 a.m., 1.05 p.m. and 11.05 p.m.
Galei Zahal: News: Every hour on the hour. Newsreels: 8.05 a.m. 12.05 and 5.05 p.m. and 12.05 a.m.

FIRST PROGRAMME
252, 522 and 221 M.

7.58 a.m. Opening, 8.05 "Morning Concert" — Mozart: "Laudate Dominus"; Adagio and Rondo (D. Oistrakh); Serenata Notturna (Britten); Sonata, K. 331 (Klein); "Exsultate Jubilate"; Concerto for Flute and Harp. 9.55 English News. 10.05 Mozart: Rondo Concertonte for Horn (Tuckwell; Oboe Quartet; "Ave Verum"; Symphony No. 40 (Casals).
10.55 French News. 11.00 News in Easy Hebrew.
11.05 Ivrit La'am.
11.15 Programmes for Elementary Schools. 11.35 Song and Melody. 12.15 Programmes for Elementary Schools.
1.05 "Midday Concert."
2.05 Mother and Child. 3.05 "Radiodea" — "Bettering your knowledge." 3.30 Guidance for teachers. 3.50 Book Review. 4.05 "Felix Mendelssohn" — The Portrait of a Creator. A series of programmes produced by Ada Brodsky (9th programme).
5.05 "Jazz" — produced by Paul Landau.
5.30 Musical Quiz.
5.55 English News. 6.05 A. Allon's Corner. 6.10 "On Work and Workers." 6.40 The Daily Mishna. 6.50 French News. 6.55 For the Farmer. 7.05 "Today." 7.25 Light Music. 7.30 Programme Trailer 7.50 Bible Reading: Tehillim, chaps. 9 and 10. 8.05 "Here at Home." 8.45 Cantorial Requests programme. 9.30 World of Science.
10.05 "Chamber Music" — Bach: Trio Sonata; Beethoven: Violin Sonata No. 6; Hindemith: Flute Sonata; Marthru: "Promenades."
11.05 "My Concert."
12.05 A Moment of Poetry. 12.08 Close Down. 1.05-5.00 Songs and Tunes. 5.05-8.00 Same as second programme.

SECOND PROGRAMME
457, 423, 256, 355 and 340 M.

5.05 a.m. Hebrew songs. 5.55 Religious service. 6.10 Exercises. 6.20 Musical clock. 6.55 Programme Announcements. 6.59 A Moment of Hebrew. 7.05 "This Morning." 7.25 Hebrew songs. 7.55 "Green Light." 8.05 Announcements. 8.10 "Good Morning." 8.55 Names and Events in the Headlines. 9.05 "Good Morning." (cont.). 10.05 "Here at Home." 11.50 Where to go and light music. 12.05 Programme for the Worker and the Employer 12.30 Hebrew Songs.
5.50 Light Music.
1.05 p.m. "At Midday." 2.05 This is Ehud Manor. 3.05 Requests. 3.54 Encore — ed. by S. Rosen. 4.05 A Moment of Hebrew. 4.06 "Songs from behind the Iron Curtain" 4.30 S. Rosen's Quiz. 4.35 "Songs from behind the Iron Curtain" (cont.). 5.05 "Anything Handy. 5.50 Light Music. 6.05 "Songs from Father's home." 6.45 Today's sport. 9.05 Hebrew songs. 9.30 Jazz. 10.05 "The Weekly Column." 10.50 Light music. 11.02 "Tonight." 11.15 Old favourites — greetings. 1.05-3.00 Songs and Tunes.

ISRAEL TELEVISION SERVICE

5.30 News. 5.32 My Friend Flicka. 6.00 Cartoons. 8.00 Nanny and the Professor. 8.30 Mabat. 9.00 "The Rockefellers" — documentary. 9.50 "Odette" — film. 11.30 News.
Educational: 8.15 Geometry 5. 8.40 Literature 7-9. 9.05 Maths. 8. 10.00 English 9. 10.20 English 7. 10.45 Story. 11.05 Biology 9. 11.25 English 8. 12.00 Algebra 10. 12.20 Maths 6. 1.00 Art. 1.20 Science 7. 2.10 Technical Drawing 9. 4.00 For Kindergartners. 4.20 Film. 4.45 English. 5.03 Technology.
Arabic: 6.30 News. 6.32 "The Lost Peace" — documentary. 7.00 Poetry. 7.05 "Visiting Card." 7.30 News.

12.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 12.30 p.m. Warm and Tasty 1.30 "Who Wins and Who Loses". 1.55 Announcements. 2.05 "Two till Four" — with Manfred Peer. 2.30 Quiz. 2.55 Programme Trailer. 3.05 "Two till Four" (cont.). 4.05 Hit Parade.5.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 5.40 Tunes for everybody — greetings. 6.05 "Discussion" 7.05 "Noah's Ark." 8.05 Concert. 10.05 Tonight with Yaakov Agmon. 11.45 Midnight talk. 12.05 Zahal's Diary. 12.30 Night Birds with Prince Bat Zvi. 3.05-Tunes in the night.

FIFTH PROGRAMME

6.55 p.m. Opening. 7.00 News. 7.25 Song and Melody. 8.00 News. 8.05 Song and Melody.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR
757, 423, 256, 249, 335 and 340.5 M.

7.00 p.m. News in easy Hebrew. 7.15 Georgian. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Ladino. 8.15 Mograbi. 8.30 Rumanian. 8.45 Russian. 9.00 Close Down.

ENGLISH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.00 a.m. (4th programme and short waves);
9.55 a.m. (1st programme);
1.30-2.00 (4th programme and short waves);
5.55 p.m. (1st programme);
8.30-8.45 p.m. (4th programme);
10.00-10.45 p.m. (short waves).

FRENCH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.15 a.m. (8th programme and short waves);
10.55 a.m. (1st programme);
2.00-2.30 p.m. (4th programme and short waves);
6.50 p.m. (1st programme);
8.45-9.00 p.m. (4th programme);
12.00-1.00 a.m. (short waves).
1st Programme — 256, 522 and 221 M.
4th Programme — 407, 455 and 292 M.
3rd Programme (short waves) — 16, 19, 26, 31, 33, 41 and 49 M.

GALEI ZAHAL

5.58 a.m. Morning Prayer. 6.05 Morning tunes. 7.55 Programme trailer. 8.05 Zahal's newsreel. 8.30 Morning tunes (cont.) 9.05 Requests.
9.55 "Pocket Torch."
10.05 Requests. 10.55 With Uri Sela. 11.05 Warm and Tasty — Regards. 11.55 "My Scoop."

B-G Airport Flights

Please call Lod Airport Flight Information, 03-971461/2/3 (or 03-971333 for El Al flights only) for changes in times of Arrivals and Departures.

TUESDAY

ARRIVALS: TWA 811 from Bangkok and Bombay, 0440; Tarom 245 from Bucharest, 1000; El Al 002 from N.Y. 1220; Alitalia 738 from Rome, 1315; TWA 800 from N.Y. and Paris, 1345; El Al 500 from N.Y. and Montreal, 1350; Lufthansa 684 from Frankfurt, 1420; BEA 482 from London, 1430; El Al 348 from Zurich, 1620; TWA 810 from Boston, Paris and Rome, 1635; Air France 192 from Paris, 1640; KLM 525 from Amsterdam, 1650; El Al 016 from N.Y. and London, 1720; TWA 840 from S.F., N.Y., Rome and Athens, 1725; Cyprus Airways 302 from Nicosia, 1805; El Al 484 from Rome, 1855; El Al 430 from Amsterdam, 1910; El Al 358 from Frankfurt, 1920; El Al 486 from Paris, 1930; BEA 484 from London 2035; Swissair 334 from Zurich, 2100; El Al 522 from Nicosia, 2135; Air France 182 from Paris and Rome, 2150; El Al 134 from Johannesburg and Nairobi, 2155; Austrian 711 from Vienna, 2210; Lufthansa 681 from Munich, 2305.

DEPARTURES: El Al 133 to Johannesburg, 0100; TWA 811 to Rome, Paris and Boston, 0655; Swissair 331 to Zurich, 0700; TWA 803 to Paris and N.Y. 0715; El Al 347 to Zurich, 0720; TWA 841 to Athens, Rome and N.Y. 0740; CPA 206 to Athens, Amsterdam, Montreal and Toronto, 0750; KLM 526 to Amsterdam, 0810; El Al 429 to Amsterdam, 0840; Air France 135 to Lyons and Paris, 0850; El Al 487 to Paris, 0900; BEA 483 to London, 0925; El Al 357 to Frankfurt, 1000; Sabena 202 to Brussels, 1010; El Al 015 to London and N.Y., 1100; Tarom 246 to Bucharest, 1110; El Al 439 to Rome, 1125; Alitalia 73[illegible] to Rome, 1400; Lufthansa 683 to Munich, 1510; BEA 485 to London, 1520; El Al 131 to Teheran, [illegible] France 192 to Teheran, Bangkok, Saigon and Hong Kong, 1800; TWA 810 to Bombay and Bangkok, 1810; El Al 521 to Nicosia, 1900; Cyprus Airways 303 to Nicosia, 1920.

WEDNESDAY

ARRIVALS: El Al 132 from Teheran, 0025; Air France 197 from Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bombay and Teheran, 0350; TWA 811 from Bangkok and Bombay, 0440; Olympic 301 from Athens, 1250; Alitalia 738 from Rome, 1315; TWA 800 from N.Y. and Paris 1345; Cyprus Airways 302 from Nicosia, 1410; El Al 004 from N.Y. 1420; Air France 182 from Paris, 1550; El Al 348 from Zurich, 1620; TWA 810 from Paris Boston and Rome, 1635; KLM 525 from Amsterdam 1650; TWA 840 from S.F., N.C., Rome and Athens 1725; Sabena 201 from Brussels, 1725; Swissair 33[illegible] from Zurich, 1805; El Al 410 from Bucharest and Athens, 1905; El Al 334 from Brussels, 1950; El Al 4[illegible] from London, 2000; BEA 484 from London, 2035; El Al 448 from Paris and Munich 2125; El Al 444 from Marseilles and Rome, 2135; Air France 130 from Paris and Nice, 2150; El Al 562 from Istanbul, 213[illegible]

DEPARTURES: Air France 197 to Paris, 0605; TWA 811 to Rome, Paris and Boston, 0655; El Al 341 to Paris, Montreal and N.Y. 0630; Swissair 331 to Zurich, 0700; TWA 803 to Paris and N.Y. 0715; El Al 347 to Zurich, 0720; TWA 841 to Athens, Rome and N.Y. 0740; Lufthansa 687 to Frankfurt, 0750; El Al 001 to N.Y. 0800; KLM 526 to Amsterdam, 0810; Austrian 712 to Vienna, 0825; El Al 447 to Munich and Paris, 0835; Air France 133 to Rome and Paris, 0850; El Al 445 to London, 0900; El Al 409 to Athens and Bucharest, 0920; BEA 485 to London, 0935; El Al 3[illegible] to Brussels, 0945; El Al 443 to Rome and Marseilles 1040; Olympic 302 to Athens, 1330; Alitalia 739 to Rome, 1400; Cyprus Airways 303 to Nicosia, 1500; Air France 182 to Teheran and Bombay, 1700; TWA 810 to Bombay and Bangkok, 1810; El Al 561 to Istanbul, 1845.

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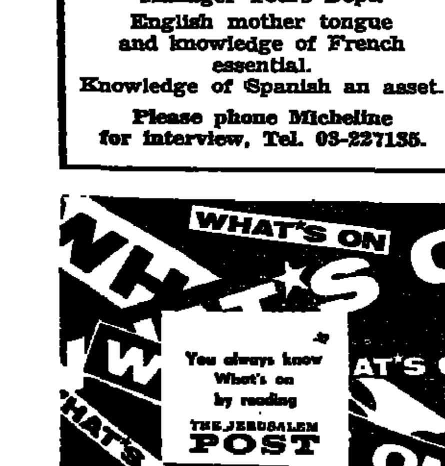

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L AVIV STOCKS

MARKET IRREGULAR

AVIV. — The market turned ...r yesterday, but there was ...nite tendency for prices to ... The turnover was IL2,379,600, this, IL1,154,200 was in the va...ies.

...izrahi gained 2.5 and then 2.5, ...lose at 183, with a turnover of ...000; Bank Leumi lost 3.5 in the ...ing round when 120,000 was of...d, but in the variables it rose ...ns to close at 315 with a turn...r of 110,000; IDB fell by two in the variables to 215 with a turnover of 90,000; and Arieh gained 16 to 154 in the opening round with a turnover of 19,000. Neot Aviv rose by two (demand: 35,000); and then by 0.5 to close at 98.5 with a turnover of 50,000.

Index-linked bonds fell slightly. The turnover was IL8,851,000.

The Natad fell by two points to IL4.67 when $96,000 was offered; the turnover was $71,000.

		29.4.74	28.4.74
...NTURES ...ED TO THE ...LAR			
...ead Sea Junior	r	346.5	346.5
...ectric Corp A	r	182	141
...ectric Corp B	r	141	—
...ED to the ...INDEX ...ipal & Interest)			
...1965, Index 110.1	6	316	316
...1968, Series 41	b	140.8	140.4
...1969, Series 41	b	361	364.1
...ERCIAL BANKS ...KHOLDING ...PANIES			
...Hityashvut	r	283	286
... pref.	r	263	266
...Bankholding	r	315	317
...Bank	r	291.5	292.5
...British Bank	b	339	339
...nt Bank "A"	r	513	515
...d Mizrahi Bank	b	182	178
...Hapoalim — 10%	b	294	294
...Leumi "A"	r	315.5	317.5
...GAGE BANKS			
...Mortgage Bank	b	247	246
...l Mortg. & Inv.	b	165	165
...Binyan	b	260.6	260.6
...Mortg. Bank	b	252	247
...g Mortg. Bank	b	186	185
...ot 8%	b	278.5	280
...ot	b	275	272
...ALIZED ...NCIAL ...UTIONS			
...Dev. Bank 8%	r	70	70.5
...h Insurance	b	279	280
... — "C"	b	370	380
...ERCIAL ...CES & UTILITIES			
...House	b	86	84
...C	r	175	176
...orage—IL10	r	189.5	189.5
...Electric Corp.	r	65	65
...rage & Supply	r	187.5	186
...BUILDING ...LOPMENT ...TRUS			
...	r	186.5	186.5
...Israel 10	r	338	336
...nd Dev.	b	180	180
Solel Boneh 10%	b	136	135
Property & Build.	r	182	220
Isras	b	173	172.5
Mehadrin	r	192	193
I.C.P. for Citrus	b	90.5	90
Anglo-Isr. Investors	b	170.5	170.5
Neot Aviv	r	98.5	96
Pri Or Ltd.	r	183	183.5
Rassco—8%	r	90.5	91
Rassco—O.	r	70.5	70.5
INDUSTRIAL			
Alliance—B	r	473	475
Elco—2.5	b	103.5	104
Electra—5	r	222	222
"Argaman"—8%	b	318	325
"Ata"—C	r	132	131
Dubek	b	445	445
Elect. Wire & Cable	b	217	215.5
Teva	b	1165	1105
Chem. & Phosphates	r	105	102
Lewin Epstein	b	66.5	69.5
Moller Textile	r	184	184
Phoenicia—8%	b	111	110
Paper Mills	r	310.9	310.5
Assis "B"	r	223.5	280
Nechushtan	b	410	390
Shemen—8%	b	135	131.5
"Taal" Plywood	b	229	228
Elite (A)		300	305
INVESTMENT & HOLDING COMPANIES			
Elgar	b	91	90.5
Ellern	b	195.5	198
Israel Central Trade	r	204.5	201.5
Bank Hapoalim	b	234	223
Paz	b	99	99.5
Wolfson IL10	b	104.5	103.5
Ampa	r	128.5	127.5
Discount Bank	b	246	248
United Mizrahi	b	114	113
Bank Leumi	r	227	226
Piryon Investment	r	102	98.5
Hassuta—For. Trade	r	93.5	93.5
Export Bank	b	78.5	76
Clal Investment	r	199	195
Clal Industries	r	190.5	191
FUEL & OIL			
Lapidoth OTC	r	87	87.5
Naphta OTC	r	170.5	175.5

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L STREET

Closing Monday, April 29, 1974

Prices fall slightly

YORK (AP). — Prices slip...ery slightly lower through ...of the session in quiet trading ...day.

...lysts said the weakness and ...of activity was induced by ...interest rates.

...Dow Jones average of 30 in...als was down a little more ...a point half an hour before ...ose, and losers led gainers by seven to six on the New York Exchange.

Brokers said the market was continuing to suffer from the competitive attractiveness of high yields on such short-term interest-bearing investments as commercial paper and certificates of deposit. Analysts also said it appeared many investors were withholding commitments while awaiting President Nixon's scheduled television address on Monday night.

...ne	12¼	Colum Pict	—	Int Paper	47¼	Revere Cop	9⅜
...Alu	—	Con Edis	—	Int T & T	21⅜	Reyn Ind	42
...Ch	—	Cont Can	—	John Man	—	Reyn Met	24⅛
...Str	—	Cont Oil	—	John Joh	—	Rockwell Int	25⅝
...nal	—	Cont Tel	—	Jon Lan	19⅜	Royl D	32½
...	—	Cont Data	—	Kais Alum	23⅝	Russ Tog	9
...lin	—	Corning	—	Kenn Cop	39⅝	Safeway	41⅜
...nt	—	CPC Intl	—	Koppers	60⅝	Schering	66½
...ian	—	Crane Co	—	Libb O Fd	26¼	Scott Pap	16¼
...	—	Crown Cork	—	Liggt My	80	Sears Roe	80⅝
...	—	Crwn Zell	—	Litton Ind	8⅜	Shell Oil	49⅝
...x	—	Dan River	—	Lockheed	4½	Singer Co	—
...ot	—	Deere Co	—	LTV Corp	9⅝	Smith KF	—
...R	—	Dist Seag	—	Macy RH	16¾	Sony	—
...nd	—	Dow Chem	—	Magnovox	6¼	South Ry	—
...& T	—	Dress Ind	—	Mfrs Han	6⅜	Sperry Rnd	—
...c	—	Dupont	—	Marath	36	St Brands	—
...	—	East Airlns	—	Marcor	23⅝	St Oil Cal	—
...la	—	E Kodak	102⅝	Marsh Fd	18	St Oil Ind	—
...l	—	Eaton	26⅜	Martin Mar	16¼	St Oil Oh	—
...1	—	El Paso NG	12⅝	Matsush	16⅜	Sterl Drug	—
...	—	ESB	22¼	McDon D	16⅝	Stn War	—
...n	—	Esmark	28¾	Merck	78⅝	Sun Oil	—
...	—	Exxon	77	Minn MM	70⅝	Teledyne	12¼
...	—	Fair Cam	—	Mobil Oil	43⅝	Tenneco	21⅞
...	—	Firestone	15⅝	Monogm	8¼	Texaco	27¾
...	—	Fluor Cp	30¼	Monsan	60	Texas Gulf	—
...o	—	Fd Fair	7¼	Moor McCor	16¼	Texas Instru	102⅞
...	—	Ford Mot	49⅝	Morgan J	63⅜	Textron	21⅜
...ar	—	Gen Dynam	23⅜	Nabisco	35⅝	Transwair	10¼
...	—	Gen Elect	53	Nat Cash R	36¼	TriCon	21⅝
...	—	G Fds Corp	24⅝	Nat Distil	15	TRW Inc	17⅜
...ck	15¼	Gen Mills	53⅝	Nat Indust	13⅝	Twent Cent	7
...	25	Gen Mot	48¼	Nowest Air	23	UAL Inc	25
...hs	197	Gn Tel El	22⅞	Occ Pet C	10	Unil Ltd	—
...	65⅝	Gen Tire	14¾	Olin Corp	24⅝	Unil NV	41⅛
...	14⅞	Genesco	5⅝	Otis Elev	35⅝	Un Carbide	38⅝
...	12¼	Georgia	41⅛	Owen Ill	38⅝	Unit Aircraft	8⅝
...ka	13¾	Getty O	127¾	Pac Gs El	21½	Uniroyal	28½
...	68¾	Gillette	35½	Panam W A	4	Unit Brands	7⅜
...	35	Goodric	23½	Penn Centrl	2¼	US Indust	8
...	31⅝	Goodyr	17	Pepsi Co	60	US Steel	43¼
...anh	17¾	W R Grace	26	Pfizer	33½	US Tobac	13⅜
...	45⅛	Grt A & P	13	Phelps D	40¼	UV Ind	37½
...ys	40⅝	Gulf Oil	21⅞	Phil Morr	96½	War Lam	33⅜
...	46¼	Gulf Wn	25⅝	Phil Petro	50¼	Wells Far	34⅜
...	118⅝	Hew Pack	81¼	Polaroid	57⅝	Wn Un	12½
...	41⅞	Honeywel	75	Proct GM	92½	Westg Elec	18⅜
...a	—	Howmet	15⅛	Qukr Oat	22⅝	Weyerhs	45
...	—	IBM	224½	Rabystos M	42	Woolworth	16⅞
...	—	Int Harv	25¾	Ralston P	18	Xerox Co	108⅝
...	—	Int Nickel	32	RCA	17¼	Zenith Rad	24⅜

STATE COMPTROLLER REPORTS

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Maternity allowances need review

By MOSHE ATER

THE State Comptroller's report on the National Insurance Institute contains several strictures on administrative shortcomings.

The maternity grant still covers hospitalisation for five days — as was the average in 1966 — though currently the stay in is much shorter — in some cases only half that long. The Institute has been discussing the matter with the hospitals concerned and with the Health Ministry since 1972, but with no results. A team intended to probe the medical and social aspects of this development has not yet been appointed. Neither have been criteria fixed for proper calculation of the grant given to cover the cost of a baby's layette (currently IL200). The Comptroller also found that the arrangements which the Institute made with several banks concerning speedy payment of the maternity grants were too cavalier and made without proper costing. The matter is now being reappraised.

Flexibility required

The Comptroller suggests that the terms concerning maternity allowances should be reviewed with the intention of making them less rigid. Under the present regulations a woman may lose her right to an allowance (equivalent to six weeks' wages) because she did not stop working a few days earlier. The Comptroller also suggests a full-scale discussion of the eligibility for these grants of pregnant women forced to stay in bed for long periods to avoid miscarriage. This suggestion has however been rejected by the Institute as untimely under current circumstances.

Passing the buck

The Comptroller's strictures concerning the indemnities paid to victims of hostile action reveal an astonishing amount of red tape and administrative passing the buck in view of the national and humanitarian importance of the issue. Eligibility for these indemnities was initially confined to residents of border areas. In 1969 it was extended to other areas as well, but under a separate law. The rights accorded under the two laws are in many respects different. The situation has been further complicated by several retroactive amendments.

The law enacted in 1969 was framed along the lines of assistance to persons affected while on military duty. While the Ministry of Defence goes to great lengths to complement the monetary benefits provided for in the law by assuring preferential treatment in other respects as well (housing, business licences, employment) no such care has been assured for civilian victims. The Institute (which administers this aid) negotiated for three years with the Housing and Transport ministries and the Land Authority concerning these extras, but with scant results. On the other hand, the Ministry of Defence — with about 20,000 cases of its own receiving aid — refused to take over the care of 500 or so additional civilian cases. The resultant delays obviously caused ill feeling among the unfortunate victims which eventually exploded in protests and demonstrations. Only recently has the Ministry of Defence agreed to extend its rehabilitation activity to civilian victims as well.

In the meantime, however, a maze of conflicting legal rights and relief opportunities has ensued, which the persons entitled to them cannot adequately evaluate. In many cases it was found that they are not even aware of their lawful rights and rehabilitation possibilities. The situation is made more complex by the fact that under the 1969 law a person affected by enemy action is entitled to opt for either the facilities accruing from this law or from that of 1956 concerning border areas. Moreover, an employee injured while at work is also entitled to compensation under industrial accident insurance. In any case he must decide during a six-month period, but even the Institute's officials are often at a loss to counsel him what he should opt for. The Comptroller suggests that the Institute prepare comprehensive tables showing and comparing the respective benefits, in order better to guide the victims and their families. But probably the entire legal framework is due for reappraisal and streamlining.

Inefficiency

Another point of administrative inefficiency refers to the checking of various pensions (industrial accidents, invalids, dependants) based on an insured person's wage-income. This is the more necessary since in many cases a substantial part of that wage consists of payments not included in the eventual pension liability and for which no premium is paid to the National Insurance Institute. As a matter of fact, the claims submitted by the insured, and the returns provided by the employers, were in a good many cases found incorrect, and mostly excessive. Nevertheless, no proper checking procedure has been set up.

For years the Institute negotiated with the Income Tax department concerning a joint checking programme, but to no avail. In 1970 the Income Tax authorities suggested that a 40-man checking unit be established, but the Institute considered the additional personnel costs excessive so that nothing came of the proposal. The Institute continued with partial and occasional checks of the submitted claims, but failed to apply a basic remedy. The situation seems rather to have deteriorated.

MINISTRY FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

NO EXAMS FOR JUDGES

Suggestions for changes in Rabbinical Court procedures, some made as long ago as 1960, have not been publicized, yet alone implemented, the State Comptroller found.

According to a 1955 law, a Rabbinical Court judge is appointed by the President of Israel after recommendations of a committee named by the Minister of Religious Affairs. Unless he is exempted, the candidate must pass a written examination.

The Comptroller reported that the Chief Rabbinate Council must schedule a date for the examinations, yet since 1968 none have been held, although there were 10 vacancies for Rabbinical Court judges in January, 1974, and an overburdened schedule on the courts. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Chief Rabbinate Council were ordered to set the examination schedule and report back in three months. In the beginning of 1973, the newly-appointed Chief Rabbinate Council set the tests for April, and about 60 rabbis applied. But by 1974, none of the candidates had been declared fit as judges in the Rabbinical Courts.

Last January, a number of Rabbinical Court judges who had reached the voluntary retirement age of 65 asked to retire, but none was given permission because there were no judges to replace them. Later, however, the Minister was told that the procedure qualifying new judges was almost completed.

Because the number of people applying for conversion to Judaism has been increasing, it was suggested that a special court be established for them. By February, 1972, no progress had been made, although funds were allocated for the court in the budget of fiscal year 1973.

DEFENCE MINISTRY

A veil of cryptic criticism

In view of the nature of most of the Defence Ministry's operations much of the significance of the Comptroller's Report is lost on the reader in view of the veiled language used and the fact that the subjects are invariably hinted at, but never mentioned directly.

Perhaps the most significant survey in the report is a table showing the steep increase in defence expenditure — from IL1,200m. in 1966 to IL6,300m. in 1973. There was, however, also a significant decline in the Ministry's budgetary share of the general national budget — down from 44 per cent in 1970 to 32 per cent in 1973, and showing only a modest increase since 1971 of IL100m.

The Comptroller, commenting on the Ministry's various contracts with industries, cites "Plant A" — producing "metal components (a typical example of the report's cryptic criticism) for a lack of efficiency in the exploitation of production potentials and for failing to produce at more competitive prices.

Most of the Comptroller's report refers to what appear to have been relatively minor administrative lapses in the Defence Ministry's dealings with contractors and suppliers — partly due to the pressures of the emergency period and all of which the Ministry ("Treasury Comments") promises to amend.

STATE CORPORATIONS

THE chapter on state corporations includes a long list of companies which have outlived their usefulness, and were recommended by the Companies Authority to be wound up. Nevertheless, the companies continue to exist — some of them even continue to operate and to accumulate deficits either because the Authority failed to inform the ministries concerned about its decision, or because these ministries failed to take appropriate action, or because they or other shareholders oppose the Authority's decision.

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Function of hindsight

THE bulky report issued yesterday by the State Comptroller's office was the 24th in a series of publications that *becomes increasingly interesting* and valuable as the years go by.

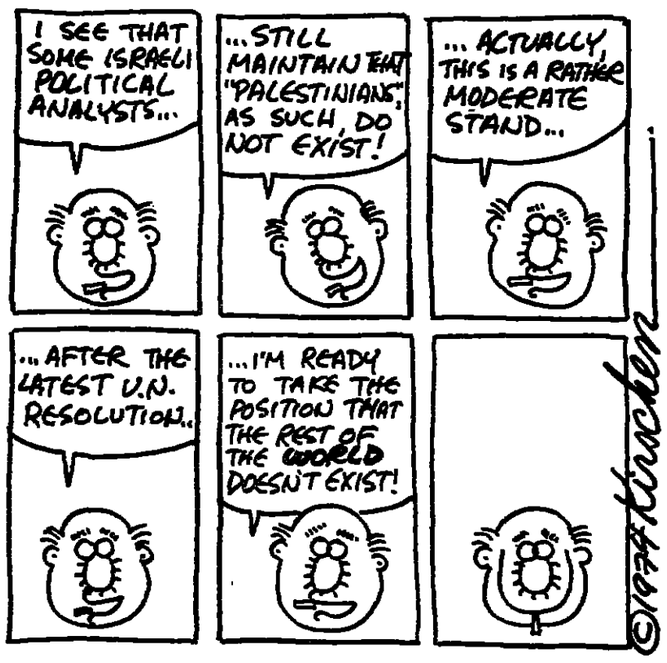
Some of this year's major complaints were striking and sharply expressed: that the banks were being allowed — legally — to make far too much money on routine operations which they carry out on behalf of the government, and that army vehicles were not in all cases serviced in accordance with the regulations that had been laid down. The banks' excess profits run into many millions: but faulty army vehicles cost lives.

It is obvious at the same time that the legions of the Comptroller, Dr. E. Nebenzahl, cannot hope to check all government and public operations. Inefficiency and poor organization may be expected to show up sooner or later, but deliberate fraud and attempts to disguise poor management could expect to escape even the vigilance of the 500 employees of the Comptroller's office for a long time. We cannot expect the Comptroller to make us perfect against our will, even with the Knesset Finance Committee checking to see whether faults have been corrected.

It was the more interesting to hear the view of the Finance Ministry's Director-General, Mr. Avraham Agmon, that the Comptroller's influence was in fact far wider than the reach *of the inspectors, as government* bodies in many cases took into account whether some procedure under consideration would be acceptable to him or not. It emerged that the Comptroller is not prepared to give an opinion in advance on such a point, on the grounds that this would involve him in direct responsibility for policy or administration, and hamper his office in its proper function of criticism, of informed hindsight.

The Comptroller, in fact, is not a government-within-a-government, and this distinction is important. It enabled him to counter the suggestion that in sitting on the Agranat Inquiry Commission he might be inquiring into his own office's failure to prevent neglect or improper management in the military establishment. It is important to maintain a proper division of responsibilities. The nation needs a government able and willing to make policy and carry it out. *The government in turn needs* these critics without ulterior motives, who do not win or lose because there is more criticism or less criticism. Only as long as these limitations are carefully observed will their strictures be accepted by the government without fear of seeing its position weakened with respect to the opposition.

Dry Bones

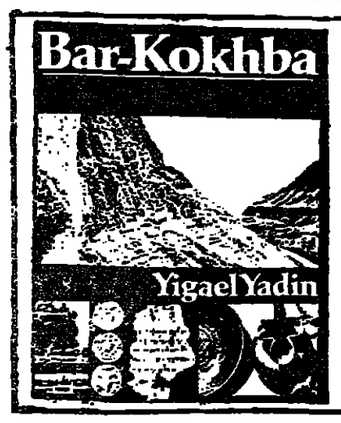


ISRAEL PRESS

Fighting could eclipse Kissinger

Davar (Histadrut) writes that Dr. Kissinger's visits to Damascus and Jerusalem will be overshadowed by the fighting on the northern front, and by the Syrians' declared intention to go on fighting. Welcome as his mediation will be, the Secretary of State must understand that Syria's military efforts of attrition will *not* achieve a political attrition of Israel.

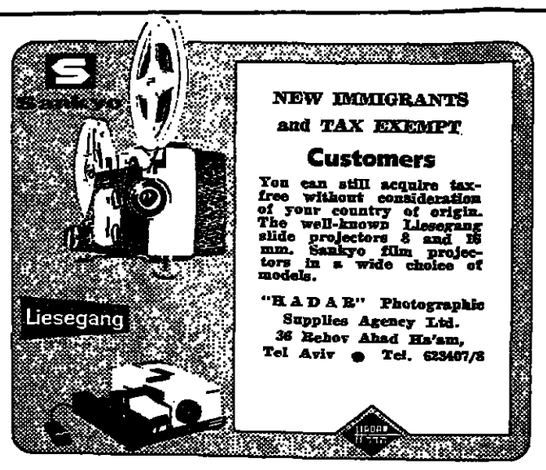
Ha'aretz (non-party) calls for a speedy formation of the new government, which need not be composed of more than 15 or 16 members — a number small enough to whet the appetite for coalition, and large enough to ensure an efficiently functioning government. Mr. Rabin should give in neither to N.R.P. demands on the conversion *issue, nor allow himself* to be pressured into agreeing to early elections in order to gain other parties' support.



'The book comes as close to perfection as we have a right to expect. I wish that all books were so thoroughly and truly published.'

Saturday Review

Weidenfeld • Steimatzky



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Houses blaze in Belfast. (Camera Press)

Ulster: 1,000 dead and still no hope

By DAVID LENNON
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — THE war-torn province of Ulster has passed the unhappy landmark of 1,000 deaths in four-and-a-half years of fighting. Even more tragic is the fact that the 1,000th fatality came at a time of intensified warfare which showed little signs that any progress has been made towards peace.

Worried by the deteriorating situation which he inherited, Prime Minister Harold Wilson flew over to Belfast for a quick round of talks with security chiefs and politicians. He seems to have gained little joy from the exercise, and at the end of his visit intimated to a press conference that if the Ulster politicians didn't make power-sharing *work, they might find the British* Government taking a new approach to the problem, a thinly veiled hint that British troops might be withdrawn.

Ulster is beginning to set a number of all-time records for British involvement in guerrilla warfare. The British Army has lost 220 men in the battles, more than twice as many as in Cyprus. The Army's wounded list tops 1,300.

Staggering rate

This fatality and casualty rate is all the more staggering when it is placed alongside the losses of the Provisional IRA who have had 115 men and women killed in the fighting. In addition, the security forces have sustained the deaths of some 50 policemen.

However, it is not these horrifying figures which are beginning to make an impact on the current British indifference to events in Nothern Ireland. A much greater impact has been made by the dangers which have arisen from the so far low-key IRA bombing campaign in England. This hasn't sent howling mobs rushing off to attack every Irishman that people see, but it has led the political police, known as the Special Branch, to indulge in some border-line activities in an effort to smash the IRA in Britain.

The case of Kenneth Lennon, who was found shot dead in a lane near London recently, has given rise to considerable disquiet here. The statement which Lennon made to the National Council for Civil Liberties *three days before his death* claiming that he was an agent provocateur for the Special Branch has set many people wondering whether it is worth while continuing a war which leads the police to ask their informers actually to encourage their contacts to commit crimes.

Littlejohn affair

Coming so soon after the Littlejohn affair, when it was revealed that Kenneth Littlejohn, a professional criminal, had been recruited by the Intelligence Service to infiltrate the Provisional IRA and actually stage robberies in the Republic of Ireland, the Lennon killing has brought home to the public the less savoury side of the civil war in Ulster.

This has shattered to some extent the popularly held myth that the British are always decent and fair in their actions. The myth wasn't shared by military or police circles, or indeed any country which fought a colonial war against the British, but it was cherished by the public at large.

The fear that the warfare in Northern Ireland might spread into England through the bombing campaign on the one hand, and that it is corrupting British "decency" on the other, are two strong factors which are arousing the public here more than the killings in Ulster itself.

As disenchantment grows with Britain's ability to solve the problem in Nothern Ireland either politically or militarily, there is every likelihood that so, too, will grow the *feeling that it is time to get out* and let the Irish settle the problem among themselves.

In fact, many of the more thoughtful officers serving in the British Army in Ulster believe that the only way to knock some sense into Ulster's quarrelsome and muddleheaded politicians would be to confront them with a deadline for the army's departure. Far from sparking off a civil war, which is in progress anyway, they believe that it would launch a feverish chase for peace.

Wilson said at the end of his visit that the terrorists would not bomb their way to the negotiating table. A nice phrase, but devoid of any real meaning. The plain facts of the matter are that the IRA have managed to alter the political set up in Ulster radically during the past few years.

This was done with bombs and bullets, and the improved bargaining position of the Catholic politicians in Northern Ireland stems directly out of a desire of the British Government to appease the Catholic minority in the province and thus, it is hoped, placate the gunmen. The IRA may not have their personal delegates at the conference table, but they are present in the thoughts of every participant.

Bigger bombs

New solutions will have to be found to stop the bloodshed. The IRA has demonstrated in recent weeks that far from being defeated, it is able to place more and even bigger bombs in Nothern Ireland *than ever before. It has shown, too,* that it can place bombs all over England with relative success. The comparative death tolls for the security forces and the IRA tell the tale that it is far more risky to be a soldier in Ireland than to be a guerrilla.

If the appalling number of 1,000 dead is not to be doubled, then the Labour Government will have to re-think the policies which the British have followed over the past few years. Either it will have to decide to use much more brutal methods, such as blowing up houses of terrorists or those who harbour them, expulsions, and even more widespread use of torture or else it will have to consider a timetable for withdrawing British troops.

These are the thoughts which must have been in Wilson's mind as he flew back to London. It seems more than likely that sooner or later he will plump for the latter alternative.

NO SHAME!!

We are again witness to the traditional "devils' dance" of the "poor tenants" and the "poor shopkeepers," in protest against the "wicked" increase in rents!

Only the professionally shameless, paying rents of 10-20% of what they should be paying — on the basis of a conservative economic calculation — could mean that they "will not be able to pay" the modest increase suggested by the Minister of Housing (⅓ of what we asked for!)

Everyone in Israel knows that since rents were frozen 34 years ago (in 1940) rents have risen by a factor of 10-15!

Everyone also knows that all the expenses and other components of the cost of maintaining rented flats and business premises (plumbing, electrical repairs and installation, builder's charges, cleaners, etc.) went up in the same period by a factor of 300-450! Even basic commodities, e.g., sugar, rice, flour, etc., which are *subsidized by the government, have risen by a factor of 100 since 1940!*

The height of cynicism and shamelessness of all these "poor unfortunate" people— who covet the property of others — aided and abetted by the Left (Mapamniks in *the Histadrut and the Knesset) is to be found* in their elegant suggestion, in March 1973 (Davar of March 22, 1973) that rents should be raised, in line with the rise in the cost of living!

Every child knows what has happened in the economy of the country since the beginning of 1974: after the change in policy on government subsidies, there is not even one basic commodity which has not risen 50-150%.

Only shamelessness and lack of logic and of minimal honesty can bring about this "devils' dance," demonstrating "the brotherhood of self-interest," of the left-wingers in the Histadrut (read: Mapamniks) on the one hand, and of the fighters for free enterprise "the poor shopkeepers" on the other!

We, who in the past have already withstood similar negative manifestations and impudent assaults will also in the future not be held back from insisting on our legitimate rights, in order to forestall the new plots of this "unholy alliance."

We hope that the government in its decisions will know how to distinguish between "the howling of jackals" and our voice, which demands "the rescue of the oppressed from the hands of their oppressors!"

ACTION COMMITTEE
Federation of Houseowners' Associations in Israel

READERS' LETTERS

RABIN — FOR AND AGAINST

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Despite Ezer Weizman's recent disclosures, Yitzhak Rabin is one of the few leading politicians who is generally respected and can unite the nation. He has also shown a readiness to accept responsibility at a time when others demurred. It is up to all parties, within the Government and outside it, to support him.

Our first need today is for a strong government with popular support to lead us through the present crisis. This will not come, necessarily, from a broad coalition or even from fresh elections. It will only come if the various political parties, as well as individuals within the parties, realize the dangers of the present internal conflict and the need to put an end to it even at the cost of party interests and party ideologies.

H. SOPHER

Haifa, April 24.

★ ★ ★

Sir, — After the congratulations on having a truly democratic election die down, it seems to me that many people will be asking themselves if Yitzhak Rabin is the right *man to* lead the country in these troubled times.

I, for one, ask this question, not because of Mr. Weizman's disclosures (the subject of which, incidentally, was not quite the [illegible] kept secret he seemed to think [illegible] was), nor because of past indiscretions as Ambassador to the [illegible] at the time of the presidential elections (and again the open [illegible] of strained relations between [illegible] then Ambassador and the [illegible] Ministry), but...

I wonder whether a man [illegible] experienced as Mr. Rabin should be entrusted with a position of such responsibility at this critical [illegible] in the history of our country. Would it not have been more mature to have chosen a candidate who [illegible] proved himself during his [illegible] life to have all the qualities [illegible] experience the position demands. Would it not have been better [illegible] have chosen a candidate who [illegible] mination would not give rise [illegible] slightest suspicion of manipulation by the Finance Minister?

It seems to me that if Mr. R[illegible] has difficulties in forming a [illegible] ernment — whatever the reason [illegible] the public will feel that, once [illegible] it has been betrayed, and [illegible] has become the victim of poli[illegible] manoeuvring for power and per[illegible] advancement.

SONIA O[illegible]

Beersheba, April 28.

Golda and the backroom politicians

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Will someone please remind the backroom politicians they hold the power of government only because of the influence of Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan on the electorate who voted them into office.

Now that they have manoeuvred Golda out of office, and soon, Dayan, with the intention of naming their own prime minister and cabinet, they show the same arrogance and callous indifference which bespeaks contempt for the public.

The only fair solution at this stage *is to call for a new mandate from* the people as soon as feasible and continue the present Government until that time, as Mrs. Meir has indicated.

The reader who attributes Machiavellian motives to Mrs. Meir in her apparent resignation but continuance in office might also be reminded that she holds office by direct mandate from the people who have not rescinded it. She has every right to remain in office according to her own judgement and to without the manipulating and manoeuvring of the party chieftains until a new mandate can be received from the electorate.

She has shown her wisdom in this procedure as she has in the past in the daily guidance of the country during her administration.

MURRAY BERNSTEIN

Jerusalem, April 23.

Advice for Begin

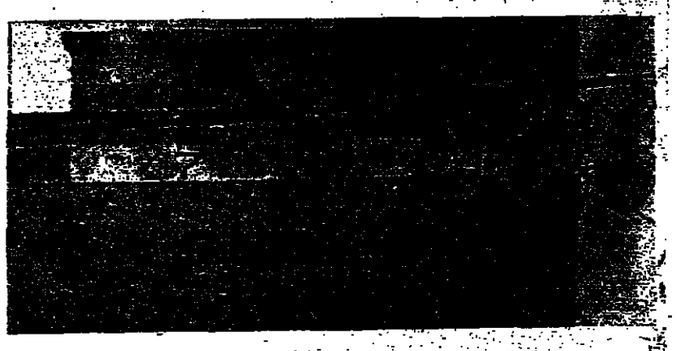
To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — I refer to your leader, "No credible opposition" (April 21). Indeed, the one good thing Mr. Begin could do would be to retire from politics and thus enable the establishment of a really powerful liberal (or conservative) opposition party, free from demagogy and leader cult.

FRITZ OPPENHEIM

Ramat Gan, April 21.

POSTSCRIPTS



Baruch Jamili's stepping stone to fame. (IPPA)

GRAFFITI only becomes respectable with age. The signature of a Crusader knight on the wall of the dining hall in Santa Katerina Monastery is history. The Israelis who scrawled their names on the palace at Knossos are vandals and those who scribbled their identities on the walls of the cable railway station of the top of the Jungfrau merely wanted the world to know that they had had the money to pay their fare and travel tax.

In what category are we to place Baruch Jamili, who sprang to fame at the Independence Day Song Festival? Shlomo Arzi, who wrote and sang "The Ballad of Baruch Jamili" which took first prize, says he didn't even know whether Jamili had ever existed. Some of us, passing the pumping station at Saris, thought the inscription might have been some kind of code. Now we know that Jamili, Palmachnik from Petah Tikva, wrote his graffiti in the melted asphalt that clung to his boots one hot day during the War of Independence.

Before we tell our children that his is not an example to be emulated perhaps Baruch Jamili would let us know whether he climbed up the wall to leave his visiting card for posterity or whether he wrote the inscription upside down from the roof.

★ ★ ★

MAY Day gives us the blue-shirt *blues. It is not so much the* snows of yesteryear that we look back upon in nostalgia as the filling meal we used to be able to have in the Workers' Kitchen for three piastres, or even less. Is there still a "Mitbach Hapoalim" anywhere in Israel?

Those were the days when t[illegible] well-heeled could have tea on t[illegible] terrace of the King David Hotel f[illegible] five piastres, or sit down to a elegantly served meal at Hesse's [illegible] Jerusalem for eight piastres. Y[illegible] can still have a well-cooked, a[illegible] well-served meal there, though n[illegible] for the same price. Mrs. Hesse re[illegible] members her customers from th[illegible] old days, but says that her restau[illegible] rant is now off the beaten pat[illegible] (even though it is just off one o[illegible] Jerusalem's main streets and righ[illegible] opposite the National Insurance In[illegible] stitute). She will show you her visi[illegible] tors' book full of names that ar[illegible] now history, and will tell you tha[illegible] when Marc Chagall dined there, sh[illegible] offered him a blank page. He look[illegible] ed at the clean, white paper, looke[illegible] at her and said with a twinkle i[illegible] his eye: "Only my signature."

F.L.

★ ★ ★

WE always felt that many psychiatrists would benefit from a session on the couch themselves. Now the University of Texas has found that college students with the highest anxiety levels are those taking their degrees in psychology, while engineering students at the other extreme.

Prof. Joseph Horn, who conducted the survey which came up with these results, said that these confirmed his theory that students choose their vocations according to personality attributes. The difference are there before they enter college.

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